



FIRE & EMS NEWS

February 2, 2014

This latest issue is jam packed with fire service news stories, training opportunities, training and safety information, and employment opportunities! Whether you are a future firefighter or a current fire service professional of any rank, you should find valuable information that will help keep you educated and informed, as well as up-to-date with the fire service.

CHABOT COLLEGE 2014 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE:

Looking for Fire Technology related courses to become a firefighter or continue your education if you are currently a firefighter so you can prepare for promotion or become the best you can be at your current rank? Why not start at Chabot College in Hayward, California where we offer a variety of courses year-round to allow students to obtain their EMT certification or recertify as an EMT, obtain their Firefighter 1 Academy Certification, or a Certificate of Achievement in Fire Technology, or a two-year degree in Fire Technology, or just take various California State Certified classes.

Registration and classes for the **Spring 2014** semester at Chabot College has begun!!! For complete registration information, go to www.chabotcollege.edu

CLASSES AVAILABLE - SPRING SEMESTER 2014

COURSE	DAY
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class meets on the following dates: - March 5, 7 and 9 (Wed/Fri/Sun) - April 8, 10 and 12 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) OR Mon & Wed (pm) Sunday (all day)
FT 91A (Wildland Firefighting-1 Basic: Cal Fire 69 hour wildland course) Note: Class meets on the following dates: April 29 - May 18	Tue & Thurs (pm) Sat & Sun (all day)
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1 st Responder-Operations) Note: Class meets on the following dates: April 22, 24, 26 and 27	Tue & Thu (pm) Sat & Sun (all day)
FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS) Note: Class only meets the following dates: April 8, 10, 12 and 13	Tue & Thurs (pm) Sat & Sun (all day)
FT 91D (Firefighter Survival) Note: Class only meets the following dates: March 30, April 1, 3, 5	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)
Health 85 (EMT Refresher) Note: Class only meets the following dates: April 28 - May 10	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)

NOTE: The above information is to the best of my knowledge as of the time this went to print. For the most up-to-date information (including room numbers & registration numbers) regarding 2014 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at www.chabotcollege.edu

My suggestion is to register as soon as you are eligible to. Classes fill up quickly, and with more people wanting to become firefighters, I don't see our numbers of students decreasing, only increasing.

FUTURE FIREFIGHTER TRAINING & EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY:

For the second year in a row, Firehouse Magazine will be hosting the Future Firefighter Experience as a part of their annual Firehouse World Conference in San Diego February 19 and 20, 2014. This year, I will be presenting the following topics (offered twice over two days):

Session 1:

- **Reach For The Firefighter Badge: How To Master The Firefighter Testing Process**

This session is intended to expose future firefighters to what most fire departments are requiring as part of their entry-level hiring process in order to become a firefighter in their department. Attendees will be provided numerous key points to the most commonly found events within an entry-level firefighter hiring process: locating who is testing, submitting applications and resumes, researching a fire department, the written examination, the physical ability test, the oral interview, the chief's interview, the background investigation, the psychological examination, the medical examination, and the recruit academy. Learn from the successes and failures of others to ensure you are as prepared as you can be when it comes time to take the test for your dream fire department! One mistake can eliminate you from the process and force you to wait a few years until that department tests again.

Session 2:

- **How To Excel At The 3 Most Important Phases Of The Firefighter Hiring Process**

Becoming a firefighter is very challenging, as it should be. It is the best career I can think of and as they say, nothing worth having comes easy. This session is intended to prepare the future firefighter for success during the three most important phases of the hiring process: the oral interview, the recruit academy and the probationary period, all of which will be covered in more detail than the other session I am presenting. In most departments, the oral interview is 100% of your overall ranking on the hiring list, and your ticket into the recruit academy. Just because you're successful in making it to the recruit academy or even after that into the probationary period doesn't mean you're home free. It is not uncommon for fire departments to terminate recruits during the academy or the probationary period. I plan to share numerous tips and lessons from over 20 years of experience starting when I was a future firefighter and now as the Deputy Chief of Training responsible for recruit and probationary firefighters.

For more information, go to http://firehouseworld.com/future_firefighters.php - I look forward to seeing you there! Steve Prziborowski

Firefighting is a very competitive job market. For every one firefighter who is hired, there are hundreds, sometimes thousands, that did not make the cut. Make sure you're that "one in a thousand" – attend [The Future Firefighter Experience at Firehouse World](#), and get the upper-hand in the hiring process. Sponsored by [Firehouse](#), this FREE must-attend program is designed for those who are seriously committed to beginning their journey to a career as a firefighter. Program and registration details are coming soon, so be sure to check your email regularly. Space is limited, so register early and start your journey to a rewarding career in the fire service.

- For more information, go to www.firehouseworld.com



CITY OF BURBANK

POSITION: Firefighter
SALARY: \$57,648

LOCATION: Burbank, CA
DEADLINE: 02/28/2014

The City of Burbank is seeking Firefighter Recruits for the City's Firefighter Training Academy. Qualified candidates will graduate from a City sponsored Firefighter recruit academy with demonstrated abilities to respond to alarms and to protect life and property; to participate in fire suppression, prevention, and emergency medical training; and station, apparatus, and equipment maintenance; and perform related work as required.

While in the academy, Recruits learn to respond to alarms and assist in fire suppression, including life-saving and rescue; perform salvage operations; assist in maintenance of fire apparatus and equipment; maintain fire station and grounds; make required fire prevention inspections; participate in required training programs; perform minor fire hydrant maintenance; participate in preparing exhibits and giving demonstrations for fire prevention and public education purposes; respond and assist in medical emergencies; and drive on City business.

You must be a high school graduate or equivalent, at least 21 years old at time of appointment, a U.S. citizen (or have applied for citizenship at least one year prior to February 28, 2014), and possess a valid CA Class "C" driver's license or equivalent and a State of California Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certificate at time of hire. Note: Must be able to obtain a valid California Class "C" driver's license with the applicable endorsement(s) required by the California Vehicle Code within three years of appointment to Firefighter. CPAT Card must be current by April 1, 2014 and current during the hiring process. A valid State of California Paramedic License is preferred.

Applicants must maintain the physical endurance, muscular strength, and agility to satisfactorily perform the essential functions of Firefighter, specifically including but not limited to stooping, lifting and/or carrying heavy objects, running, walking on uneven surfaces, climbing ladders, pulling heavy hoses, wearing heavy equipment, and crawling; and must agree not to use tobacco on or off duty for as long as employed by the City of Burbank Fire Department.

Additional qualifications include knowledge of elementary physics, chemistry, and mechanics; mechanical aptitude; and the ability to learn technical fire fighting principles and techniques and principles of hydraulics applied to fire suppression; understand and follow oral and written directions; keep records and prepare reports; and establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, fellow employees, and the public.

Employees in this classification, who are required by applicable laws and regulations to have respiratory protection, shall comply with the American National Standards Institute's requirements on Practices for Respiratory Protection. Employees in this miscellaneous, non-safety, classification will not participate in "live fire" situations or responses except under controlled, training exercises.

We offer a starting salary of \$4,808 per month plus generous benefits. Please apply online at www.burbankusa.com/jobs. The City of Burbank requires that you complete the Firefighter written test at www.nationaltestingnetwork.com. The testing/ application must be completed by the closing date or you will not move forward in the process. Completed application and written exam must be submitted **NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M.** February 28, 2014. The City of Burbank is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



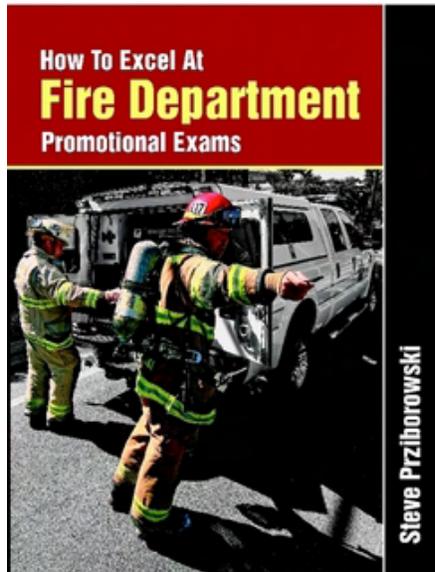
FIRENUGGETS.COM

A magazine by firefighters, for firefighters.

"A nugget a day keeps the doctor away." [Subscribe today!](http://firenuggets.com)

FIREFIGHTER PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION BOOK:

Preparing for promotion? If so, this book is for you and is a must read! It is titled “**How To Excel At Fire Department Promotional Exams.**” To order, go to www.code3firetraining.com



Department Promotional Exams,” intended for anyone in the fire service preparing for promotion. Getting promoted in the fire service is not an easy process. Many people have that desire to promote, but for whatever reason cannot put the pieces together to make it a reality. Over the 20 plus years I have been in the fire service, I have had the opportunity to be on both sides of the promotional process – as a candidate, and as a rater and proctor. This book will assist fire department personnel specifically prepare for their next promotional exam.

Promotional candidates will be exposed to and offered key points for the most common tasks and events within a fire department promotional process including, but not limited to: promotional preparation, completing the application, resume preparation, the written exam, the oral interview, the personnel problem, the oral presentation, and the emergency simulation.

INFORMATION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS:

Near Miss Reporting System Relunched to Turn Lessons Learned into Lessons Applied

January 30, 2014

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) is relaunching the Near Miss Reporting System to provide a more interactive user experience and a renewed focus on training that turns lessons learned into action.

A grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program has supported the Near Miss's next-generation transition; this includes increased education and advanced technology transferred from the Department of Defense and will help the program become self-sustaining in the future. The relaunched Near Miss is founded on efforts to grow Near Miss offerings to meet the needs of today's fire service professionals and to establish partnerships with like-minded organizations, all while keeping the program's core mission intact. The emerging Near Miss support community includes longstanding partners such as FirefighterCloseCalls.com, academic institutions such as Oklahoma State University's International Fire Service Training Association, and AlphaTRAC, an organization focused on crisis-decision training based in Westminster, Colo. The relaunch provides a dynamic experience that up-and-coming firefighters and EMS personnel can readily relate to.

Here's some of what you can expect:

- An updated report submission process, powered by AlphaTRAC's XCapture™ technology, for improved data collection and analysis
- Website enhancements that improve visitors' ability to find and share reports with the Near Miss community
- The launch of a new Near Miss training environment that includes:
 - A revamped **Report of the Week** – sign up on the website
 - A training bundle that will be piloted in February, including a short training video and tabletop scenarios based on Near Miss reports
 - A monthly scenario-based training simulation, using AlphaTRAC's AlphaACT® decision-making training applications.

With the relaunch, the Near Miss Reporting System takes another step forward and renews its commitment to turn near-miss experiences into safe practices for the fire and emergency service. Visit the new and improved Near Miss Reporting System at FireFighterNearMiss.com to share your near miss experiences, learn from the database of reports and train using real-world experiences.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Looking to increase your fire service knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) or obtain some initial or continuing education? Check out some of the various fire service & EMS training conferences and seminars around the United States:**

Firehouse World – *San Diego, CA* – February 17 through 20, 2014

Go to www.firehouseworld.com for more information.

Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) – *Indianapolis, IN* – April 7 through 12, 2014.

Go to www.fdic.com for more information.

Firehouse Expo – *Baltimore, MD* – July 15 through 19, 2014

Go to www.firehouseexpo.com for more information.

Fire Rescue International – *Dallas, TX* - August 12 through 16, 2014

Go to www.iafc.org/fri for more information.

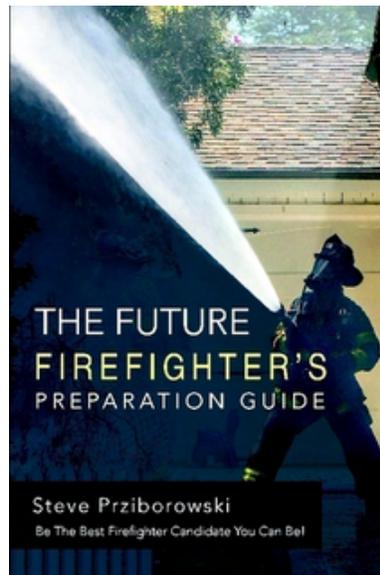
California Training Officers Fresno Training Symposium – *Fresno, CA* - November, 2014 -

Go to <http://www.to.calchiefs.org/> for more information.

FIREFIGHTER ENTRY-LEVEL PREPARATION BOOKS:

Are you preparing to become a firefighter or do you know someone who is preparing to become a firefighter? If so, this book is a must-have for your library!

The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide! Be the best firefighter candidate you can be!



Getting hired in the fire service is not an easy process. Many people have that desire to become a firefighter, but for whatever reason cannot put the pieces together to make it a reality. Over the 20 plus years I have been in the fire service, I have had the opportunity to be on both sides of the hiring process – as a candidate, and as a rater and proctor. This book will assist future firefighters specifically prepare for a career in the fire service.

This book is not the one-size-fits-all book to becoming a firefighter. There is just not enough room to accomplish that. Instead, this book is meant to be your starting point to get you headed in the right direction as you begin the process of becoming a firefighter. In upcoming books, I will provide more specific direction on the hiring process to becoming a firefighter and with tips for success upon getting hired with your dream department. Nobody said it was going to be easy becoming a firefighter...if it was, everyone would be doing it!

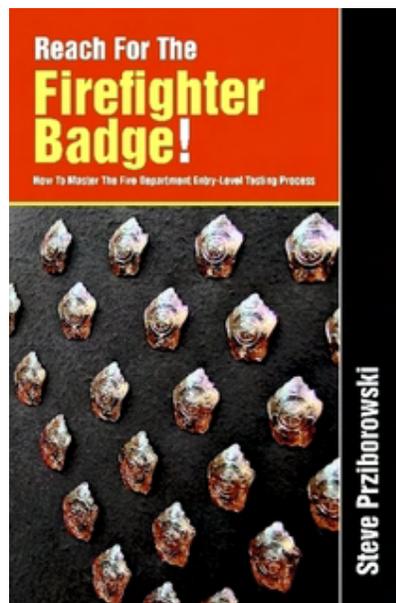
To order, go to www.chabotfire.com

FIREFIGHTER ENTRY-LEVEL PREPARATION BOOKS:

Are you preparing to become a firefighter or do you know someone who is preparing to become a firefighter? If so, this book is a must-have for your library!

Reach For The Firefighter Badge!

How to Master the Entry-Level Fire Department Testing Process!



This book is intended to take over from where my first firefighter preparation book "The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide," left off. That book was intended on providing the future firefighter with a road map of what to do when starting out the journey to becoming a firefighter. This book is intended to provide more focus on what to expect and more importantly, how to be successful at the firefighter testing process, which can vary from department to department.

This book will help future firefighters by providing a road map of how to best navigate the firefighter testing process, so that they are successful in obtaining a position in the best career I am so fortunate to be a part of, a career in the fire service! If you have prepared for the position of firefighter by doing many of the things I suggested in "The Future Firefighter's Preparation Guide," and follow the suggestions within this book, your chances for success will greatly increase!

To order, go to www.chabotfire.com



Attend a FREE Firefighter Preparatory Seminar

Presented by the Los Angeles County Fire Department:

A one-day overview about what to expect from the hiring process



Seminar will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a one-hour lunch break



EXPLORE OUR CAREER IN

Firefighting

Seminar Topics:

- Introduction to the Fire Service
- Recruit and Probationary Firefighter Expectations
- Written Test Preparation
- Oral Interview Preparation
- Introduction to Backgrounds
- Health and Fitness
- Candidate Physical Agility Test (CPAT) Information



Dates/Location

Western University
309 E. 2nd Street, Pomona:
Jan. 11, Mar. 29, May 31, 2014

More dates and locations to be announced

REGISTER to attend

Registration is required to attend. Register online at fire.lacounty.gov, and bring your confirmation form to the seminar. Seating is limited to those who register. For more information, visit our website at fire.lacounty.gov.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA TRAINING OFFICERS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Invoice

Jan 1st 2014 – Jan 1st 2015

<u>MEMBERSHIP STATUS</u>	<u>ANNUAL FEE</u>
New Member and / or Renewal	\$50.00

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

NAME _____

DEPARTMENT/ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY STATE ZIP _____

WORK PHONE () _____ WORK FAX () _____

RANK/POSITION _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO

Northern California Training Officers Association

MAIL CHECK AND COMPLETED INVOICE AND PAYMENT TO:

Northern California Training Officers Association

Attn: Captain Ed Bartley

1220 Fire Science Lane

Modesto, CA. 95351

[Click here](#) to view this email online

FIREHOUSE WORLD

February 17 - 20, 2014

San Diego Convention Center | San Diego, CA

REGISTER

75,000 sq feet of the best tools and products in the fire service!

Innovation | Education | Community

Innovation »

Over 275 exhibitors showcasing the best and most innovative equipment on the market.

New exhibitors this year:

- Unication, USA
- USSC Group
- WaterMax LLC
- Psomas
- Maintainer Custom Bodies
- Maxwell Technologies, Inc.
- Pacific Gas & Electric
- TECGEN
- Losberger, US, LLC
- Kocheck Company
- NECA-IBEW
- NTA Life
- Prestolite Electric, Inc.
- American Addiction Centers
- Assured Performances 360
- B/A Products Company
- BA Tool Co.
- Buckstop Truckware, Inc.
- Canada Metal Pacific, Ltd.
- CB2 Industries
- Creditors Specialty Services, Inc.
- EF Recovery
- EnviroVision Solutions, LLC:
- ForestWatch
- Fire Recovery USA
- Firetrucks Unlimited

Use promo code **promo17** when registering.

Group discounts are also available for you and your crew. Register 3 people and save an additional 10%.

Hotel & Travel

Book your hotel early and take advantage of the special rates from onPeak, our official housing partner. Rates as low as \$169.



Hotel
Travel

Exhibit Hall

Floor plan
Exhibitor listing
Speakers Showcase

- **Free** to all attendees

- Pro-Safe Fire Training System, Inc.
- Underwriter Labs
- Vetter Innovations
- Wing Inflatables, Inc.
- 5 Alarm Leather
- Hormann Flexon LLC
- Intovate International
- ImageTrand, Inc
- Impact Instrumentation, Inc.
- Leatherhead Concepts
- Allegiance Technology

Community »

- [Fire Service Appreciation Night](#) on the U.S.S. Midway
- 11th Annual Networking Event at the Firehouse Museum

Sponsored by Fire Etc.



Education »

- More than 75 first-time or state of the art topics
- Commanders and firefighters discuss their perspectives on the major and latest incidents
- Forward-thinking EMS programs, including Mobile Integrated Healthcare, address the fire service's increased role in EMS response and care
- Dozens of new instructors - plus returning favorites - from fire departments across the nation
- Nationally-certified classes, including Safety Officer and All-hazards Division Group Supervisor
- Network opportunities – discuss challenges and current issues with your peers

Conference Schedule

[Click here for conference information](#)

Networking

Kick-off Firehouse World on the U.S.S. Midway at the [Fire Service Appreciation Night](#). Tuesday, Feb. 18.

In partnership with:



Sponsored By:



- [Fire Etc. 11th Annual Networking Event](#)

Special Events

- [Appearance of Engine 51 and Squad 51](#)
- [Win a Harley Davidson Motorcycle](#)

Sponsored by Unication



- **Firefighters Wife Experience**
- **Auto Club Speedway
Giveaway**
- **Firehouse Fever Product
Giveaway**

To register or for more details, visit FirehouseWorld.com.

FIREHOUSE

CYGNUS
BUSINESS MEDIA

© Cygnus Business Media - 801 Cliff Road East, Suite 201, Burnsville, MN 55337 - 800.827.8009

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Looking for California State Certified fire training courses? Check out the California State Fire Training CLASS SCHEDULE – it is updated every Friday and contains a statewide listing of state certified classes for personnel of all ranks – even future firefighters.

Go to: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/trainingclassselection.php>

FIREFIGHTER PREPARATION OPPORTUNITY:

Fire Alumni Workshop 2014

The Firefighter Workshop is designed for the broad spectrum of entry-level firefighter candidates from those who are just starting out and may not know what the hiring process is all about, all the way up to those candidates who are well involved in the process and may be looking to get the extra edge.

We will cover topics such as:

- Being the Ideal Candidate
- Education
- Chief's Interviews
- How to Successfully Search for the JOB
- Technology in the Hiring Process
- Application and Resume Development
- Physical Fitness
- Discipline & Accountability
- Backgrounds & Psychologicals
- Written Exams

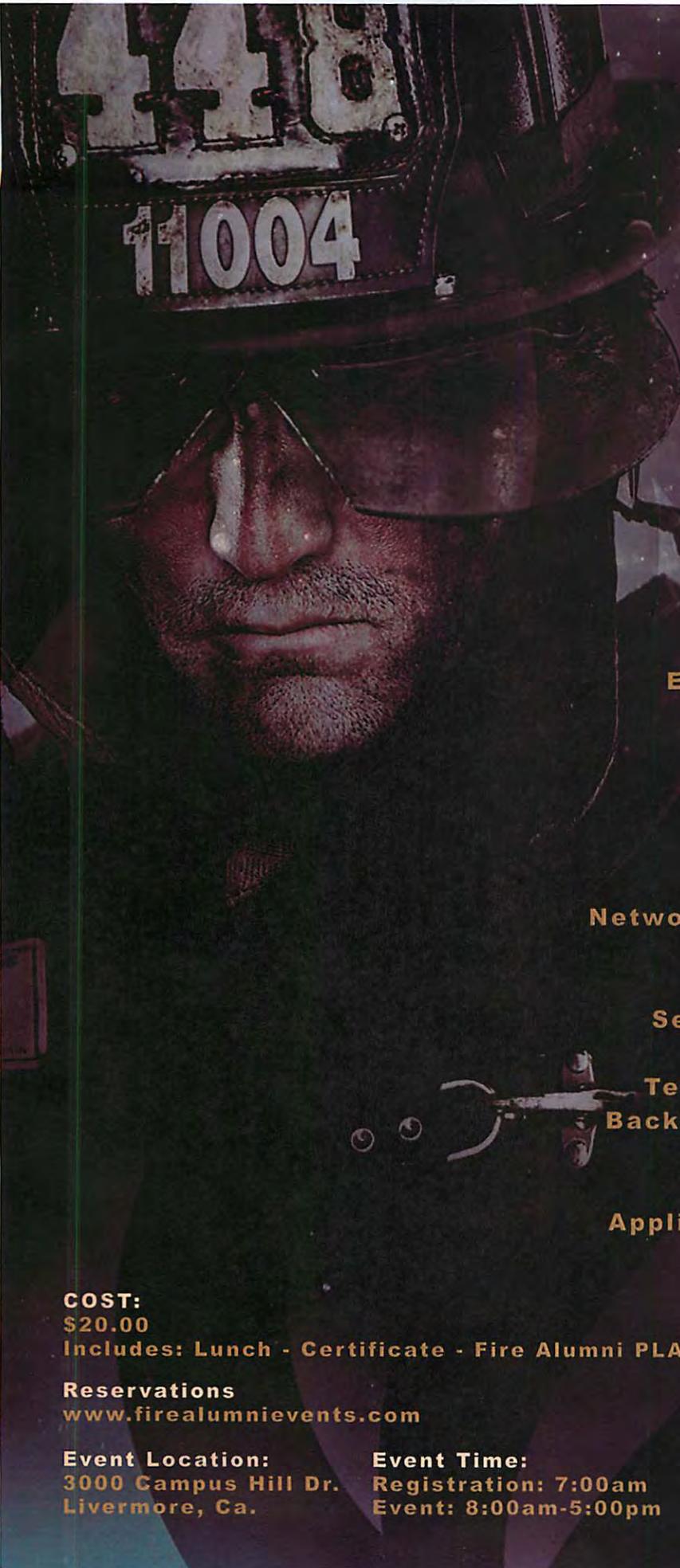
Date: March 2, 2014

Address:

Mertes Center for the Arts
Las Positas College
3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore, Ca. 94551-7623

To register – go to: <http://firealumni.com/allevnts/fire-alumni-workshop-2014-2/>

To view a video on YouTube to provide more information about this once-a-year opportunity that is guaranteed to provide you with lots of valuable nuggets, go to:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHfWb9SmPnI>



FIREALUMNISM
EVENTS

FIREFIGHTER WORKSHOP

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE-MERTES CENTER FOR THE ARTS
MARCH 2, 2014

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Chief Bobby Halton (ret)
Editor in Chief Fire Engineering

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Paul Lepore - Division Chief

WORKSHOP TOPICS

- Being the Ideal Candidate
- Networking & Building Relationships
- Education
- Chief's Interviews
- Secrets to a Winning Job Search
- Written Exam
- Technology in the Hiring Process
- Background & Psychological Exams
- Discipline & Accountability
- Physical Fitness
- Application & Resume Development

COST:

\$20.00

Includes: Lunch - Certificate - Fire Alumni PLAYBOOK

Reservations

www.firealumnievents.com

Event Location:

3000 Campus Hill Dr.
Livermore, Ca.

Event Time:

Registration: 7:00am
Event: 8:00am-5:00pm



FIREALUMNI

Entry Level Firefighter Bootcamp

Topics Covered:

Application Process

- Cover Letter
- Application
- Qualification Resume'
- Interview Resume'

Written Exam

- Preparation
- Types of Questions
- Diagnostic Testing
- Tutoring Process

Physical Ability Test

- Test Elements
- Techniques
- Diagnostic Testing
- Preparatory Workouts

Oral Interview

- Preparation
- Presentation
- Content
- Answer Development Guidelines

Tuition: \$199.99

www.scottgoodwinassociates.com

FIRE SERVICE PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION CLASSES:



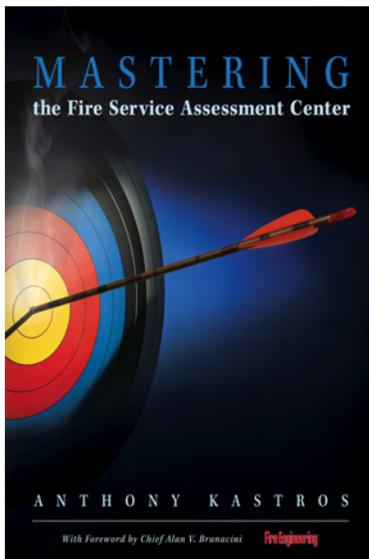
MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER

4-DAY WORKSHOP

BASED ON THE TEXT:

MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER
BY FIRE ENGINEERING

- PARTICIPATE IN EMERGENCY SIMULATIONS, ORAL PRESENTATIONS, VISUAL RESUMES, PROMOTIONAL INTERVIEWS, COUNSELING SESSIONS, VIDEO COUNSELING, IN-BASKETS, AND SUPERVISORY EXERCISES.
- DISCOVER THE PROPER MENTALITY FOR THE TEST, INCLUDING HOW TO SHED BAGGAGE AT THE DOOR.
- FOCUS ON BECOMING POSITION ORIENTED VS. TEST ORIENTED.
- LEARN ABOUT THE 27 KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES THAT SPAN THE DIMENSIONS OF LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.
- ASSESS AND BE ASSESSED USING SCORING CRITERIA UTILIZED IN TODAY'S ASSESSMENT CENTERS.
- PRACTICE EXERCISE-SPECIFIC TOOLS AND AVOID CANDIDATE PITFALLS.
- * INCLUDES BEST-SELLING BOOK PUBLISHED BY **FIRE ENGINEERING**.



"I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE EXCELLENT SEMINAR THAT YOU GAVE IN PREPARATION FOR LA CITY'S FIRST EVER ASSESSMENT CENTER FOR FIRE CAPTAIN. BETWEEN WHAT I HAD BEEN STUDYING IN YOUR BOOK WITH FRIENDS AND WHAT WENT ON AT THE SEMINAR, WE ATTAINED SCORES OF 93.5% AND 100%. I REALLY LIKED THE FACT THAT YOUR INFORMATION ISN'T BASED ON TECHNIQUES OR GIMMICKS RATHER IT TEACHES HOW TO MOST EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE OUR ALREADY ACQUIRED SKILL SETS." - CHUCK - LA CITY FD

"I JUST WANTED TO DROP YOU A LINE AND LET YOU KNOW THAT I PLACED #1 ON OUR CAPTAINS LIST WITH AN OVERALL SCORE OF 95.36% AND I WAS PROMOTED LAST MONTH. THE PLAN THAT I PUT TOGETHER AFTER YOUR ASSESSMENT CENTER CLASS WORKED. YOUR METHODS ARE PROVEN. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND YOUR INSPIRATION THAT YOU GAVE ME TO PURSUE MY PROMOTION." - BRIAN - ROSEVILLE FD

"I AM SO, SO HAPPY THAT I TOOK YOUR COURSE. IT WAS ABSOLUTELY THE DIFFERENCE IN ME BEING SUCCESSFUL IN MY PROMOTIONAL PROCESS. I TOOK YOUR COURSE WITH SEVERAL OTHER COLLEAGUES FROM MY DEPARTMENT. I CAME OUT NUMBER 5 OF A LIST OF 47. THERE ARE THREE (3) OF US IN THE TOP 5 FOR CAPTAIN. THERE ARE 5 OF US IN THE TOP 10." - REGGIE - SAN JOSE FD

FEBRUARY 24 - 27, 2014 – SACRAMENTO, CA \$595.00*
MARCH 31 – APRIL 3, 2014 – SACRAMENTO, CA \$595.00*

GO TO WWW.TRAINFIREFIGHTERS.COM FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION
CLASS SIZE LIMITED TO DUE TO DEPTH OF INSTRUCTION



Emergency Simulation Program

Over 300 Emergency
Simulations
for \$10 a month

OR

Organization Subscription
for \$150 a year

www.scottgoodwinassociates.com

ELITE

COMMAND TRAINING

IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE,
SKILLS, AND ABILITIES



S-270: Basic Air Operations, January 27 – 28, 2014

0830 to 1700 hrs - \$225.00

S-234: Ignition Operations, January 29 – 30, 2014

0830 to 1700 hrs - \$275.00

S-230: Crew Boss – February 24 – 26, 2014

0830 to 1700 hrs - \$225.00

S-231: Engine Boss – February 27 – 28, 2014

0830 to 1700 hrs - \$200.00

S-200: Initial Attack IC – March 10 – 11, 2014

0830 to 1700 - \$200.00

S-300: Extended Attack IC – March 12 – 13, 2014

0830 to 1700 - \$200.00

Instructed By:

CAL FIRE Battalion Chief – Jeff Brand (ret.)

See Chief Brand's bio at: www.elitecommandtraining.com (instructors)

Hosted By:

Brea/Fullerton Fire Department

Class Location: Brea City Hall – 1 Civic Center Circle Brea, Ca.

Register at: www.elitecommandtraining.com - PayPal process

Elite Command Training's email: elite@elitecommandtraining.com

26741 Portola Pkwy, Ste. 1E #833 Foothill Ranch, Ca. 92610

Questions call: 626-290-6007



WWW.ELITECOMMANDTRAINING.COM



ELITE@ELITECOMMANDTRAINING.COM



“DON'T BE THE PERSON IN COMMAND WHO DOES NOT KNOW WHAT
THEY ARE REQUIRED TO KNOW AT THE TIME THEY NEED TO KNOW IT” <

ELITE

COMMAND TRAINING

IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE,
SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

State Fire Training S-series Classes 2014

Brea City Hall

1 Civic Center Circle – City of Brea, California

S-404 Safety Officer “all hazard” – February 25 – 27

S-339 Division/Group Supervisor “all hazard” March 10 – 12

S-430 Operations Section Chief “all hazard” March 24 – 27

S-400 Incident Commander “all hazard – April 28 – May 1

What you will receive by attending: State & nationally qualified, experienced, and knowledgeable instructors. An effective incident command system process for all hazard emergencies. “Adult learning” command experiences that can be immediately incorporated into your current position/work environment. Improve your knowledge, skills and abilities by enhancing your command confidence, incident management methods and promotional advancement.

We will NOT waste your valuable time.

Instructors: Assistant Chief Dave Franklin, San Francisco FD

Deputy Chief Michael Bryant (ret.), County of Los Angeles FD

Deputy Chief John B. Tripp, County of Los Angeles FD

Battalion Chief Jeff Brand (ret.), Cal Fire

Assistant Chief Vince Pena, County of Los Angeles FD

REGISTER NOW at: www.elitecommandtraining.com or call: 626-290-6007

“As a student and colleague, I have to say that Chief Bryant’s presentation of the CSFM Chief Officer’s series is the most dynamic and fundamentally sound, contemporary Command and Control course being offered today.”

– Lloyd Ogan

Deputy Fire Chief | Sacramento Fire Department



ELITE@ELITECOMMANDTRAINING.COM



WWW.ELITECOMMANDTRAINING.COM



FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The San Jose Fire Department is accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter Recruit!**

- **All testing for this position must be completed by the end of the business day on April 25, 2014.**

For more information about the San Jose Fire Department, visit their website at <http://www.sjfd.org/>

This position requires FireTEAM testing through National Testing Network (NTN) and a valid CPAT at the time of closing.

Salary Information:

Compensation: Full-time with Benefits

- Fire Recruit: \$30.19 hourly, \$62,795.20 annual
- Firefighter, Step I: \$2536.80 bi-weekly base pay; \$65,956.80 annual (upon successful completion of the Academy)
- Anti-terrorism training pay 2% of base
- Holiday-in-lieu pay: 5.623% of base
- EMT Pay: 3% of top step Firefighter (currently \$102.02 bi-weekly)
- Eligible employees would also receive additional premium pay upon successful completion of the Academy:
- Paramedic Pay: 12% of top step Firefighter (currently 408.10 bi-weekly)
- Oral Bilingual Pay: \$29 bi-weekly
- Education & Training Pay (AA/AS - BS, Fire Science, Fire Technology, Fire Protection Technology): \$35 bi-weekly.

Benefit Information:

- Competitive Salary
- Paid Vacation and Sick Leave
- Insurance: Medical, Dental, Vision
- Uniform Allowance
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Retirement: www.sjretirement.com. Retirement benefits for the Firefighter position are subject to change based upon ongoing contract negotiations between the City of San Jose and Local 230, IAFF.

More information available at www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx

Department Overview: The San Jose Fire Department is committed to excellence in public safety. We embrace innovative approaches to meet the evolving needs of our diverse city. We work in partnership with the community to achieve a fire and hazard safe environment. The San Jose Fire Department (SJFD) is committed to serving the community by protecting life, property, and the environment through prevention and response.

City Information: San Jose was founded in 1777 and is located in the South San Francisco Bay area within Santa Clara County, CA. It is the 10th largest city in the US and the 3rd largest city in

California. SJFD serves the city-proper and other Santa Clara County areas with a total population that exceeds 1 million. Responding to approximately 74,000 calls for service each year (from 33 Fire Stations), SJFD is a high-volume, high-performance, full-service fire department. In terms of critical infrastructure, SJFD is the emergency service provider for a number of high-hazard occupancies, including an International Airport; 1 municipal airport; 7 major hospitals (including 3 trauma centers, and 7 emergency departments); the SAP Center, home of the NHL San Jose Sharks, (maximum occupancy 20,000); San Jose State University (the oldest public institution of higher education on the West Coast), student population of 31,906; three super regional malls; and 516 high-rise structures. Population: Approximately 1 Million

Job Requirements:

- Age: Eighteen (18) years of age at time of application.
- US Citizen: Can lawfully work in US
- High School Grad/GED
- Valid CALIFORNIA State Driver's License
- Ability to Read/Speak English
- Vision: Please read the following information to ensure that you meet the minimum vision standards.

Uncorrected Vision: (If you do not wear glasses or contact lenses, and have not had any vision-related surgery or medical procedures), the vision standard is: 20/100 binocular (both eyes open)

Corrected Vision: Your vision, with glasses or soft contacts, must be 20/20 binocular (both eyes open); 20/40 in the worst eye.

Soft Contacts: One year of successful use prior to the examination. Eye glasses are to be used as back-up on an emergency basis and must be available at all times. Eyeglasses must be worn when using respirators.

Necessary Certifications:

- CPAT certification card which is not more than one-year-old by closing date.
- Proof of EMT Licensure and Certification as demonstrated by:
 - Possession of current active certification as a National Registry Emergency Medical Technician Basic OR; Possession of current active certification as a California State Fire Marshal Emergency Medical Technician I, OR Possession of current active certification as an Emergency Medical Technician I from any County in the State of California.

Desirable Qualifications:

- Department of Defense Fire Fighter I Certificate
- California State Fire Marshal Firefighter I
- Military Veteran
- Bilingual (Cantonese, Mandarin, Spanish, Russian, Tagalog, and Vietnamese)
- California Class B Commercial Firefighter Driver's License
- AA/AS/BA/BS in Fire Science or Fire Technology
- Proof of Paramedic Licensure and Certification as demonstrated by:
 - Documentation of successful completion of an approved paramedic training

program and successful completion of the National Registry of EMT-P's written and practical examinations by the date of the written examination and actual possession of a current and valid paramedic license issued by the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority, OR Possession of a valid EMT-P certification from another state, territory, country and registration with the National Registry of EMT-P's by the date of the written examination and actual possession of a current and valid paramedic license issued by the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority, OR Possession of a current and valid Paramedic license issued by the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority.

To apply and sign up for pre-employment testing (FireTEAM), go to:

<http://www.nationaltestingnetwork.com> and click on FIREFIGHTER JOBS. Select the department and read over all the requirements and if qualified, select a testing location and a time and date for testing on the website calendar. You will also be required to fill out a PHQ through your candidate account. For questions concerning the testing process, click on the Support link on the NTN website. For updates and new job announcements, "Like" National Testing Network on Facebook.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:



The Santa Clara County Fire Department is proud to offer the following California State Fire Marshal certified courses:

COURSE:	DATES:	COST:
• S-230 (Crew Boss)	February 24 – 26, 2014	\$150.00
• S-231 (Engine Boss)	February 27 - 28, 2014	\$100.00
• Fire Command 2B	March 10 – 14, 2014	\$295.00
• Training Instructor 1C	March 17 - 21, 2014	\$295.00
• S-215 (Fire Ops Urban Interface)	April 8 – 11, 2014	\$215.00
• Fire Command 2C	May 12 -16, 2014	\$295.00
• Fire Prevention 1	May 19 - 22, 2014	\$225.00
• S-336 (Tactical Decision Making in Wildland Fire)	June 10 – 13, 2014	\$480.00
• S-234 (Ignition Operations)	June 24 – 27, 2014	\$495.00
• Fire Command 2D	July 14 – 18, 2014	\$295.00
• Fire Command 2E	September 15 – 19, 2014	\$295.00
• Regional Instructor Orientation	September 17, 2014	\$175.00
• Ethical Leadership in Classroom	September 18, 2014	\$100.00
• Fire Management 2A	November 3 – 7, 2014	\$295.00
• Fire Management 2B	January 12 – 16, 2015	\$295.00
• Fire Management 2C	March 9 – 13, 2015	\$295.00
• Fire Management 2D	May 11 – 15, 2015	\$295.00
• Fire Management 2E	July 13 – 17, 2015	\$295.00

Course Locations:

McCormack Training Center
485 West Sunnyoaks Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008
Behind the Sunnyoaks Fire Station, please park along the fence towards the training tower.

Start Time:

0830 the first day unless noted otherwise.

To Register:

Please see below for registration form.

More Info:

Contact Steve Prziborowski at steve.prziborowski@sccfd.org or 408-896-6890.

Prerequisites:

See below.

CLASS PREREQUISITES

COURSE	PREREQUISITES
Training Instructor 1C	Training Instructor 1A and 1B
Fire Command 2B	I-300; Fire Command 1B and 2A
Fire Command 2C	I-300; Fire Command 2A
Fire Command 2D	I-300; Fire Command 2A
Fire Command 2E	I-300; Fire Command 1C and 2A
Fire Prevention 1	None
S-215	Qualified as a Single Resource Boss or Initial Attack Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4)
S-230	S-290 & Qualified as an NWCG FF Type 1
S-231	S-230 & Qualified as an NWCG FF Type 1
S-234	S-290 and at the minimum an Engine Boss, Single Resource (ENGB) initiated task book.
S-336	Qualified as a Single Resource Boss or Initial Attack Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4)
Ethical Leadership in the Classroom	None
Regional Instructor Orientation	None

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
CLASS REGISTRATION FORM**

COURSE:	DATES:	COST:	QUANTITY:
S-230 (Single Resource/Crew Boss)	February 24 – 26, 2014	\$150.00	_____
S-231 (Engine Boss)	February 27 – 28, 2014	\$100.00	_____
Fire Command 2B	March 10 – 14, 2014	\$295.00	_____
Instructor 1C	March 17 - 21, 2014	\$295.00	_____
S-215 (Fire Ops in the Urban Interface)	April 8 – 11, 2014	\$215.00	_____
Fire Command 2C	May 12 - 16, 2014	\$295.00	_____
Fire Prevention 1	May 19 – 22, 2014	\$225.00	_____
S-336 (Tactical Decision Making)	June 10 – 13, 2014	\$480.00	_____
S-234 (Ignition Operations)	June 24 – 27, 2014	\$495.00	_____
Fire Command 2D	July 14 – 18, 2014	\$295.00	_____
Fire Command 2E	September 15 – 19, 2014	\$295.00	_____
Regional Instructor Orientation	September 17, 2014	\$175.00	_____
Ethical Leadership in the Classroom	September 18, 2014	\$100.00	_____
Fire Management 2A	November 3 - 7, 2014	\$295.00	_____
Fire Management 2B	January 12 – 16, 2015	\$295.00	_____
Fire Management 2C	March 9 - 13, 2015	\$295.00	_____
Fire Management 2D	May 11 - 15, 2015	\$295.00	_____
Fire Management 2E	July 13 - 17, 2015	\$295.00	_____
		TOTAL:	_____

Name: _____

Rank: _____

Department: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

For these classes, the only form of payment will be checks, money orders or cash.

- **Please make your check/money order payable to:** Santa Clara County Fire Department.
- **Please mail or deliver your check / money order (please don't mail cash) to:**
Santa Clara County Fire Department - Attention: Steve Prziborowski
14700 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos, CA 95032-1818
- **Cancellation Policy:**
Full refunds will be provided if requested 14 calendar days in advance (of the first day of class) at 1500 hours. If a class begins on Monday, then the refund deadline is 1500 hours two Mondays prior. If a refund is requested within 14 calendar days before the first day of the class, the student may be given credit for a future course, but not a full refund. No refunds will be provided if the student does not attend the class, or if they begin the class but do not complete the class.

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

If you want to become a firefighter, have you started taking fire department examinations yet? If not, what are you waiting for? If you say you're not ready, you'll probably never be ready. If you want to wait until you finish your degree, then you're going to have wasted about two (or more) valuable years that could have been spent learning how to master the fire service testing process. You should be taking every fire service exam you qualify for – what's the worst that can happen if you take a test? If nothing else, you will hopefully start to learn your strengths and weaknesses and what it takes to become a firefighter. Don't rely on us to provide you with every fire department that is accepting applications. We only send out a small fraction of the current open firefighter positions across the United States. If you truly want to become a firefighter, put your money where your mouth is and subscribe to a fire testing service that will notify you when fire departments across the United States are accepting applications.

Two of the best fire testing notification services I have seen are:

- www.firerecruit.com
- www.firecareers.com

For less than \$100.00 per year (each), those companies (run by firefighters) will provide you with valuable testing information to help save you time and effort. Becoming a firefighter is not an easy task, and the badge will not drop from the sky into your lap. Don't wait for your friends to tell you about testing opportunities or expect to hear about them from us.

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:

The Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) is a must have for any person planning on becoming a firefighter. More and more departments are requiring a candidate to possess a CPAT completion card (no older than one year) just to apply for their department. If you do not possess a current CPAT, you do not pass go, you do not collect two hundred dollars, and you miss out on the opportunity to compete for a firefighter position at many departments. The CPAT does not guarantee that you will be a successful firefighter. Successfully passing the CPAT means that you should be able to enter a firefighter academy at a reasonable level of fitness appropriate to the job. I encourage you to learn more about the CPAT, and also look into having this certificate on your resume. Trust me, this may be an eye-opener for some – many of you will not pass it the first time. Make sure you take advantage of the orientation and practice sessions and learn where your weak spots are so you can focus on those areas. To see the available dates to take the CPAT at any of the below three locations, visit their website at www.cpatonline.org

- NOTE: Do not wait until the last minute to attempt to complete the CPAT as it is common for people to fail their first attempt and have to go back on another day for a retest. More departments are asking for a CPAT card within six months or one year of the date of their testing process. I've seen many candidates fail the CPAT and not be able to continue through a department's testing process because of their failure to plan ahead. Don't let this be you!

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

Southern California:
626 N. Eckhoff Street
Orange, CA 92868

Northern California
526 Commerce Way
Livermore, CA 94551

Sacramento Area:
1329 N. Market Blvd., #100
Sacramento, CA 95834



IAFC Member Alert

Contact: IAFC Strategic Services Department
[703-273-0911](tel:703-273-0911) | www.iafc.org

Firefighter Safety Call to Action:

New Research Informs Need for Updated Procedures, Policies

A joint effort between the International Association of Fire Chiefs Safety, Health and Survival Section and the International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Fairfax, Va., Dec. 23, 2013 - Given the recent proven research by Underwriter Laboratories and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, this call to action is being issued to fire and emergency service officers to take the following immediate actions:

1. Update departmental fireground policies and procedures, deliver training programs and conduct in-service updates to reflect fire dynamic research findings:

- Water doesn't push fire or threaten trapped occupants:
 - Water should be applied to a fire as soon as possible and from the safest location because research has proven it reduces thermal temperatures.
 - Simply put, if you see fire, put water on it immediately. This greatly increases civilian and firefighter survivability as well as property conservation.
- The recently created mnemonic, **S.L.I.C.E.R.S.** - (<http://www.isfsi.org/Resources/PressReleases/sampleslicrs.aspx>) should replace RECEO VS as a core component of firefighter training programs.
 - See the pages 4 through 13 of this attachment for more information on SLICERS taken from the ISFSI website.
- Coordinate ventilation and fire attack. Ventilation continues to be an important tactic that requires significant coordination and control. Adding air to a building without the immediate application of water on today's fires

greatly increases fire spread and reduces survivability for victims and firefighters. It isn't possible to make statements about the effectiveness of ventilation without consideration for the timing and application of water. Venting doesn't always lead to cooling; well-timed and coordinated ventilation leads to improved conditions.

- Control the door, control the flow path. Forcing, or opening, a doorway for entry creates an inflow ventilation flow path. Controlling the door to reduce airflow is an important step to improve the survivability of victims and firefighters, control heat release rates and reduce the chance of flashover.
- Closing interior doors to improve compartmentalization is critical to victim and firefighter survivability. What used to be referred to as "Vent-Enter-Search (VES)" is now known as "Vent-Enter-Isolate-Search (VEIS)." When conducting VEIS tactics, closing the door to an entered compartment *prior* to conducting search operations is vital to controlling the flow path.
- Assess exterior and interior collapse potential:
 - Structural stability and potential for collapse must be a priority for consideration during size-up and brief initial reports (BIRs) should identify the presence or potential presence of engineered, lightweight building materials.
 - Sounding the floor for stability is not an exclusive reliable indicator of structural stability and therefore should be combined with other tactics to increase safety.
 - Floor sag is a poor pre-indicator of floor collapse as it may be especially difficult to determine the amount of deflection while moving through a structure.
 - Thermal imagers are not an exclusive, reliable indicator of the presence or absence of fire in a basement and can't assess structural integrity above floor coverings.
 - Water application to a fire in a basement should be applied from an exterior access, penetrating nozzle or via holes cut into the compartment. Conducting an attack on a basement fire from the floor above via interior access is not recommended.
- Conducting a 360° size-up of the fire occupancy should be completed prior to making entry. Wind-driven fires represent an immediate life-threat to firefighters, particularly in light of flow-path research. Attacking the fire from the windward side of the structure may be the most effective way to

save lives.

- Discourage or eliminate the widely-used term "nothing showing" from the initial on-scene radio report. As a result of modern fuel loads and energy-efficient building-construction materials, fires in structures can be expected to become ventilation-limited quickly. Smoke or open flame may not be visible from the exterior by arriving fire companies and the term unintentionally but significantly contributes to complacency.

2. Call on standards-setting organizations and publishers to update their programs and products immediately to reflect the latest fire-dynamic research findings.

To learn more about the fire-dynamics research, check out the following resources:

- Organizations:
 - **National Institute of Science and Technology:**
<http://www.fire.nist.gov/>
 - **Underwriters Laboratories:**
<http://www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/corporate/aboutul/noteworthy/fire-research/>
 - **International Society of Fire Service Instructors:**
<http://www.isfsi.org>
 - **IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section:**
<http://www.iafcsafety.org>
- Watch for It: FSTAR
 - There's a wealth of research underway at leading labs, universities and the private sector on fire behavior in the modern-built environment, but it will have little impact on firefighter tactics unless it reaches fire service leaders. *Firefighter Safety Through Advanced Research (FSTAR)* is a federally-funded online toolkit being created by the IAFC to break down silos between the academic world, laboratory settings and the fireground. Watch for it in the spring of 2014.

-end-



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline
Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics
www.isfsi.org

PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to provide a consistent approach to structural firefighting strategies and tactics. These concepts are written as guidelines to provide fire officers the ability to adjust tactics to a specific emergency. These guidelines are in no way intended to replace one of the most important assets on the fireground, the thinking fire officer.

These guidelines are written to provide a standardized vision of strategies that will be used on the fireground. Officers are allowed to deviate from the guidelines when conditions or situations warrant and should immediately notify the Battalion Chief or Incident Commander of their actions.

EXPECTATIONS

All firefighters should be intimately familiar with the tactical guidelines. Company officers should understand all company assignments and how each unit works within the larger fireground picture. All personnel should know the guidelines well enough, so that when they have to deviate from the guidelines, they realize the impact their actions will have on other operating companies, and communicate accordingly.

DEFINITIONS & CONCEPTS

Accountability Officer – Assigned Officer responsible for the tracking and verification of personnel on the fireground.

Defensive Mode – Command option when the Rescue Mode is not imminent and there are NO life-safety issues. This is also when resources are not available (second or third due engine companies). This Mode is declared when risks outweigh benefits. This Mode identifies an exterior attack for an extended duration-“Risk a little to Save a little”

Door Control – The process of ensuring the entrance door providing access to the fire area is controlled and closed as much as possible after teams enter the structure. Steps must be taken to prevent the door from locking behind the entering members. By controlling the door, we are controlling the flow path of fire conditions from the high pressure of the fire area towards the low pressure area on the other side of the door. Door control also limits fire development by controlling the flow path of fresh air at the lower level of the open door towards the seat of the fire.



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline
Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics
www.isfsi.org

Driver Pump Operations (DPO) – A description of the duties and responsibilities that the Drivers (Position “D”) are required to perform on scene.

Fire Attack Mode-When a determination of the first arriving officer deems rescue is NOT imminent. This mode may start out with a quick exterior attack and transition to an interior attack. Command will announce as a “Working Fire”

Fire Department Connection (FDC) – Water supply connection on Commercial and Multi-Family Buildings, which supplies water to the sprinkler system and/or standpipe system.

Flashover - A transition in the development of a compartment fire when surfaces exposed to thermal radiation from fire gases in excess of 1100°F reach ignition temperature more or less simultaneously. This causes the fire to spread rapidly throughout the space, resulting in fire involvement of the entire compartment or enclosed space.

Flow Path - The movement of heat and smoke from the higher pressure within the fire area towards the lower pressure areas accessible via doors, window openings and roof structures. As the heated fire gases are moving towards the low pressure areas, the energy of the fire is pulling in additional oxygen from the low pressure areas. Based on varying building design and the available ventilation openings (doors, windows, etc.), there may be several flow paths within a structure. Any operations conducted in the flow path will place members at significant risk due to the increased flow of fire, heat and smoke toward their position.

Flow Path Control - The tactic of controlling or closing ventilation points which will: Limit additional oxygen into the space thereby limiting fire development, heat release rate and smoke production. Control the movement of the heat and smoke conditions out of the fire area to the exterior and to other areas within the building.

Incident Commander – Referred to as “Command” of the incident. This is the first or highest ranking Officer or Acting Officer on the incident, who is responsible for the oversight or direction of the incident strategy.

Initial Rapid Intervention Crew (IRIC) – Crew of personnel who temporally assembles to provide for the safety and rescue of the firefighting crews. Once additional manpower assemble to meet the required “Two-In, Two-Out” Rule, they assume their primary function on the fireground.



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline
Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics
www.isfsi.org

Investigative Mode - Command option where the first-in unit investigates and other apparatus stage. This is when there is NO visible or apparent emergency upon arrival. Example: Responding for a fire alarm with nothing showing upon arrival.

On-Deck – The movement from one position to another. This is used as a description when personnel move from the Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) to interior Fire Attack/Search Crews etc.

Operations (Forward Ops.) – Assigned Officer who provides tactical direction to personnel engaged in firefighting and rescue operations. This person can be located close to or in the building where the incident is taking place.

Manpower Pool – Group of personnel assembled away from the incident, which are prepared and teamed for incident operations.

Mayday – A standard three-word distress call to indicate that a firefighter, emergency medical technician, or team is in immediate danger and requires assistance.

Medical Rehab Group – Group of personnel who are assigned to monitoring, documentation and possible care of personnel who have been engaged in firefighting operations.

Personal Accountability Report (PAR) – A system utilized by the Incident Commander (IC) via the radio and accountability System, to verify the status of personnel at an incident.

Primary Hydrant/Water Source – Hydrant or water source closest to the incident.

Quick Response Vehicle (QRV) - ALS provider who responds to emergencies in a car.

Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) – Crew of personnel solely dedicated to the safety and rescue of the firefighting crews.

Rescue Mode - Command option where critical life safety situations are present. Command will announce as a “Working Fire”. This mode will be declared when there is entrapment of occupants or firefighters. This should be considered on non-fire related emergencies. (structural collapse, confined space, trench collapse) The Rescue Mode ends when the occupants or firefighters have been removed or the determination for rescue is NOT possible.



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline
Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics
www.isfsi.org

Rural Water Supply - A water supply system established where a distribution system is not present. Mostly found in the rural parts of the locality where apparatus is required to shuttle water to the incident.

Safety Officer – Assigned Officer responsible for the overall safety of the incident operation.

Secondary Hydrant/Water Source – Hydrant or water source near the incident, but from another direction that is separate from the primary hydrant or water source.

S.L.I.C.E.R.S.– Slice is a Fire Attack Mode tactic used to reduce temperatures inside a building prior to entry by firefighting personnel for extinguishment or rescue.

Truck Operations – Support Operations that are assigned to Truck Companies that provide assistance in firefighting and rescue operations.

VENT-ENTER-ISOLATE-SEARCH (V.E.I.S.) –is the approved tactic when entering a structure through an opening (door or window) to search an area for the location of the fire or to locate possible victims. The priority upon entering the area via a window is to close the door to that room or area in order to isolate that area being searched from the fire area. When entering a fire area via a doorway entrance, the door needs to be controlled until the fire area is further isolated or a charged hoseline is advancing on the fire. By isolating the area, we are controlling the flow path of the fire, heat and smoke towards the ventilation point as well as controlling the air flow from the ventilation point towards the fire area.

INCIDENT SIZE UP

It is critical that the company officer communicate a concise size up of every situation. This information sets the tone for the incident and prompts the dispatcher to ensure the appropriate resources are allocated based on the incident type.

The initial radio report should include the follow:

- Unit Number
- Conditions (Verify situation or declare a “working incident” and specify the type - See Table 1)
- Building construction type
- Establish Command
- Declare operational mode



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline

Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics

www.isfsi.org

Situation Type	Description
High Life Hazard	Any location that poses multiple life threats due to difficulty exiting or lack of mobility of the inhabitants: (Churches, Hospitals, Hotels, Nursing Homes, Schools)
Multi-Family (High Life Hazard)	A building that can or does contain a large number of people. An apartment complex is an example, as long as people can easily exit.
High Rise	A building where total evacuation is not practical, ground based operation is not possible or when resources are stretched beyond the capacity of one jurisdiction.
Commercial Structure	A structure in which the primary purpose is to conduct activities of business, industry, or trade.
Residential Fire	A building occupied by a single family.
Hazmat	An incident involving a gas, liquid or solid that, in any quantity, poses a threat to life, health and property.

(Table 1: Situation Types)

Requesting Additional Resources:

Ensure conditions reported to the dispatcher are accurate so that the correct units can be dispatched.

The incident commander can either request specific units as needed or request a second alarm. A second alarm doubles the resources currently assigned to the appropriate situation type.

Example of an escalating incident:

Engine 1 is dispatched for a *residential fire alarm*

Engine 1 arrives with a working house fire. Engine 1 transmits, "Engine 1 is on the scene of a working residential fire in a 1 story wood frame dwelling. Engine 1 is establishing "Any Street Command" and operating in Fire Attack Mode.



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline

Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics

www.isfsi.org

The dispatcher will “reclassify” the call from fire alarm to *working residential fire* and automatically dispatch the appropriate resources for that call type.

INCIDENT PRIORITIES

The following priorities will guide decision making during the incident:

- Life Safety
- Incident Stabilization
- Property Conservation

When operating at structure fires, the following tactical goals apply:

Structural Fire Tactical Goals
S.L.I.C.E.R.S.

Sequential Actions

- S**ize Up
- L**ocate the Fire
- I**dentify and Control Flow Path
- C**ool the Space from Safest Location
- E**xtinguish the Fire

Actions of Opportunity

- R**escue
- S**alvage

(Table 2: SLICERS Acronym)



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline
Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics
www.isfsi.org

SEQUENTIAL ACTIONS: To take place in order:

Size Up

Size-up must occur at every fire, and as a result of the size-up, the resources available and situational conditions; weather, fire location, size, structure, construction etc. A tactical plan for that fire must be developed, communicated and implemented. First arriving officers/incident commanders are responsible for obtaining a 360 degree view of the structure involved. Where impractical because of building size or obstructions, the incident commander should delegate other arriving units to view parts of the structure unseen by the incident commander.

Radio Benchmarks

- ➔ *Initial Radio Report*
- ➔ *Declare Operational Mode (Rescue Mode, Fire Attack Mode, Defensive Mode, Investigative Mode)*

Locate the Fire

The location and extent of the fire in the building must be determined. Officers should use all means available to make this determination. Thermal Imagers should be booted prior to arrival and at the ready for the initial 360 degree lap of the structure. The location of the fire and current conditions will dictate the best location to attack the fire.

Identify the Flow Path

The incident commander should identify the presence and/or location of the flow path. Effort should be taken to control ventilation and the flow path to protect potential building occupants and limit fire growth. If a flow path is visible, consider closing doors and windows to limit air flow. When closing doors and windows, firefighters should be aware of any potential rescues readily accessible via doors/windows.

Cool the Space from the Safest Location

Given information obtained during the size up, locating the fire and identifying the flow path, the incident commander will determine if high heat conditions exist inside the structure. When high conditions are present, the incident commander will determine the safest and most direct way to apply water to the superheated space, or directly on the fire when available. The primary goal in this step is to reduce the thermal threat to firefighters and potential occupants as soon as reasonably possible.



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline
Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics
www.isfsi.org

Radio Benchmarks

- ➔ *Fire has been “Reset” (State location)*
- ➔ *Communicate method of continued operations*

Extinguish the Fire

Once the thermal threats have been controlled, the fire should be extinguished in the most direct manner possible. The incident commander should recognize the potential for the thermal threat to return and should move to extinguish the fire quickly. The incident commander should ensure the proper initial rescue crews (IRIC) are in place for interior fire attack operations.

Radio Benchmarks

- ➔ *“Water on the Fire,” when water is applied to seat of fire*

ACTIONS OF OPPORTUNITY: May occur at any time

Rescue

The incident commander should consider the potential for rescues at all times. Firefighters should be prepared to remove occupants. It should be reinforced that often the best action the fire department can take is to suppress the fire. The incident commander and fireground officers must make a rapid and informed choice on the priority and sequence of suppression activities versus occupant removal. As life safety is the highest tactical priority, rescue shall always take precedence. The incident commander must determine the best course of action to ensure the best outcome for occupants based on the conditions at that time.

Salvage

Firefighters should use compartmentalization to control fire spread and smoke whenever possible.

Special Note on Ventilation:

Fire departments should manage, and control the openings to the structure to limit fire growth and spread and to control the flow path of inlet air and fire gases during tactical operations. All ventilation must be coordinated with suppression activities. Uncontrolled ventilation allows additional oxygen into the structure which may result in a rapid increase in the size and hazard of the fire due to increased heat release rates.



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline
Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics
www.isfsi.org

Residential Assignment

Dispatch Assignment

(3) Engines, (1) Truck, (1) Heavy Squad, (1) Medic Unit/Ambulance, (1) QRV, (1) Battalion Chief and Air Utility

First Engine

- Position Engine past structure or stop short to leave room for 1st Truck.
- Establish command, give initial size up, identify and initiate water supply (Rural Water Shuttle if necessary) and state operational mode.
- Complete lap around building.
- Responsibilities: Rescue Mode-Rescue of occupants. Fire Attack Mode-Initiate SLICERS. DPO operations. Pull 2 attack lines. Defensive Mode-No entry.

Second Engine

- Position apparatus at primary hydrant (when available) and secure water. In rural water settings, pick up the 1st Engine's supply line and prepare for rural water operations.
- Ensure continuous water to 1st Engine. If 1st engine can get its own water, support the FDC.
- Responsibilities: Establish Initial Rapid Intervention Crew (IRIC) when no rescue is evident. In rescue and fire attack mode, initiate 2nd attack line and support initial attack. DPO/Water Supply Operations. If no Truck Company, prepare for Initial Search.

Third Engine

- Position apparatus at secondary hydrant (At or near front), when available to establish secondary water source.
- Lay-in and supply water for 1st Truck Operations.
- If rural water, deliver water to 2nd engine and drop crew. Apparatus to help set-up dump site for rural water operation.
- Responsibilities: Establish On-Deck Rapid Intervention Crew. Initiate a handline dedicated for RIC use only. DPO/Water Supply Operations.

First Truck

- Position apparatus at or near front.
- Ladder roof unless advised otherwise by command.
- Prepare for immediate V.E.I.S. when appropriate.
- Responsibilities: Prepare for forcible entry, search, salvage and overhaul.
- Coordinate with command for access for compartment cooling, place ground ladders for escape, control utilities.



International Society of Fire Service Instructors

Sample Standard Operating Guideline
Residential Firefighting Strategy & Tactics
www.isfsi.org

Heavy Squad

- If arriving before Truck with necessary staffing, assume primary Truck Operations duties. Otherwise, position apparatus away from scene.
- Responsibilities: Serve in role appropriate for arrival.

Medic/Ambulance

- Qualified Medic Units should serve as initial IRIC until relieved.
- Establish Medical/Rehab Group.

Battalion Chief

- 1st BC: Position command vehicle to serve the command function. Obtain progress reports and assume Command as necessary. Establish an Accountability Officer (QRV, Staff) and Safety Officer (Staff). Maintain dedicated Medic Unit for incident, not involved in firefighting operation.
- 2nd BC: Operations (Forward Ops.)

QRV

- Report to Command
- Establish Accountability Officer

Tanker Box

- 1st - Report to Dump Site to Deliver Water.
- 2nd Tanker - Report to Dump Site to Deliver Water.
- Engine - Report to Fill Site to Set-Up Fill Operation

Special thanks to Hanover Fire*EMS, Hanover County, Virginia for submission of this sample Standard Operating Guideline.

FIRE SERVICE SAFETY, TRAINING & NEWS STORIES TO LEARN FROM, COURTESY OF DEPUTY CHIEF BILLY GOLDFEDER & GORDON GRAHAM – and www.firefighterclosecalls.com

Hey,

The media is "all over" a fatal house fire in Ohio....as expected. This is an excellent opportunity to ask the questions of your own dispatch center related to your FD's call handling times.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

From the time a caller is answered when dialing 9-1-1....

To the time the dispatcher takes the information...

To the time they process the call....

To the time the FD tones go off....

To the time the FD turns out and responds.....

To the time the FD takes to arrive on scene.

How long does it take in your community? From the 9-1-1 call is answered ("9-1-1 What Is Your Emergency?") to the time your tones go off (Bee Doo)? Nearly two minutes elapsed between the time their dispatcher received a call and then alerted firefighters about that house fire (RAW VIDEO BELOW) that subsequently killed four people (including kids) in Kettering (Ohio) on Dec. 12, according to the incident's call log. The Dayton Daily News has analyzed the 911 audio and call logs surrounding the deadly fire, reviewing dispatch and firefighter response times because of the severity of the blaze, the city's deadliest in 25 years.

Although the dispatcher's time of 1 minute and 58 seconds meets the national standard, it will be part of the department's overall review of the incident, Kettering Fire Department Battalion Chief Jon Durrenberg said, adding that they typically review all major responses. "We review the crews being dispatched, fire response, we look at our performance on the scene, the decision making process and just about anything we can improve on," he said. The cause of the fire at 1963 Craig Drive has yet to be determined, and the dispatchers who responded to the call are still on duty, Durrenberg said. By all accounts, the Kettering FF's pushed as hard as any FF's could to help these people-but when you see the video showing the conditions, you get a true grasp of what they were up against. Alicia Mobley, her two sons Shaun Mobley Jr. and Jacob Mobley, and her father Forrest Carroll died in the blaze. Their funeral service was held on Dec. 19.

The national standard time for a dispatcher to alert crews of a fire is between 1 minute and 15 seconds, and 2 minutes and 10 seconds after receiving the first call, said Ken Willette, manager for the public fire division of the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association. **Also, crews should arrive at the scene up to 6 minutes after being dispatched, the organization recommends.** The Massachusetts-based NFPA advocates for fire codes and standards, research, training and education. It also recommends average response times for the nation's fire departments. The call for the deadly Kettering fire came in at 3:50 a.m. Crews arrived at the scene 4 minutes and 41 seconds after dispatch, according to the Kettering Fire Department. Six minutes and 39 seconds elapsed from the 911 call to the crew's arrival at the fully engulfed home - structures on either side of it suffered some damage.

What's a good template for any FD to consider when evaluating 911 call handling, call processing dispatch and response times? Simply put-what do you want for your family if they have a fire?

COMPLICATED DISPATCH?

Dispatch does not have to be complicated...it has to be smart, efficient, with well (fire service) trained pros answering the calls---focused on what's best for the citizens--when someone reports a fire, simple questions of where, what and getting their phone number should be all that's needed to get those first alarm tones activated...after that-ask all the questions you want. But get the tones out! And DO NOT allow a CAD "system" to create slower call handling and processing times that, when done manually, were faster. So many communities have CAD systems whose "generic" design have created significant delays in getting the fire dispatched. WTF!?

Easily, one of the most professional and well respected fire dispatch centers in the US (SW NH Fire Mutual Aid: <http://firemutualaid.com>) dispatches for something like 100+ fire agencies in 3 states-and any CAD salesman that came in over the years would be challenged with "*can your CAD system handle fire calls as quickly, accurately and as efficiently as our dispatchers*"?....only recently have I been advised that they have found a CAD system even worth considering. Technology is wonderful-but when it causes a delay to the primary mission-us getting help to people quickly-those who operate the system need to take a close look at what they may be held responsible for. The tail cannot be allowed to wag the dog.

WATCH THE RAW VIDEO OF THE KETTERING FIRE:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1ZE7em33YU>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1ZE7em33YU>

ENTIRE ARTICLE ABOUT THE FIRE & DISPATCH TIMES:

<http://www.firefighternation.com/article/news-2/officials-review-response-deadly-ohio-fire>

RELATED:

Please, please PLEASE JUST SEND THE FIRE DEPARTMENT!

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/185684>

FIRE DEPARTMENT FAN:

UL's Firefighter Research and their PPV Technical panel need your help to determine the most commonly used fans in the fire service.

GIVE THEM 2 MINUTES AND CLICK HERE:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9NVTM79>

HAVE YOU BEEN READING OR HEARING ABOUT ALL THAT FIRE BEHAVIOR STUFF FROM THE FIREFIGHTERS WORKING WITH UL?

Good. Here is more:

FF Training Website:

<http://www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/offerings/industries/lifesafetyandsecurity/firefighter-safety-research-institute/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ULfirefightersafety>

Twitter:

https://twitter.com/UL_FSR

Blog:<http://ulfirefightersafety.com/>

Website:

<http://www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/offerings/industries/lifesafetyandsecurity/firefighter-safety-research-institute/>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12/23/13-2047 Hours

AND:

NJ FIRE POLICE LT DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-COLLAPSES WHILE DIRECTING TRAFFIC

We regret to pass on the Line of Duty Death of Lt David Lidke, 51, of Hightstown (Mercer County, NJ) Engine Company 1. Having just returned to quarters from working scene safety at two residential structure fires yesterday, Fire Police Lieutenant Lidke suffered a medical emergency and collapsed while directing traffic to assist apparatus back into quarters. The nature and cause of Lt. Lidke's fatal injury is still to be determined. FD Home Page: <http://www.hightstownfire.org/>
Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

A GIFT FOR YOUR PROBIES:

Just in case you need a last minute Christmas gift for your probies, we have you covered:
<http://www.firefighternation.com/article/training-0/shut-train-more>

Take time to remember the two West Webster (NY) Firefighters who were killed in the Line of Duty, one year ago today, Christmas eve 2012. Lt. Michael Chiapperini and FF Tomasz Kaczowka were shot and killed in the murderous attacks. Firefighters Ted Scardino and Joseph Hofstetter were wounded in the attack. **HERE is the "LIVE" RADIO TRAFFIC:**

"MULTIPLE FIREMEN DOWN, MULTIPLE FIREMEN SHOT, WORKING FIRE":

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=siwoJ1rih3k> Listen to the incredible professionalism by the dispatcher and of course, those under attack. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 12/24/13-1039 Hours

AND:

All,

Today is the 30th anniversary of "The Buffalo Explosion" that killed BFD members Mike Austin, Mickey Catanzaro, Red Lickfeld, Tony Waszkielewicz, and Matty Colpoys in the Line of Duty...instantly. The 3 engines, 2 trucks, rescue and 3rd Battalion were responding to that report of the large propane tank leaking in the building. Engine 32 arrived and reported nothing showing, and they were talking to some workmen from the four-story, heavy-timber warehouse (approx. 50' x 100'). Truck 5, Engine 1 and BC Harvey Supple (who was critically injured) arrived right behind E-32. 37 seconds after the chief announced his arrival, there was a tremendous explosion. It completely leveled the 4 story building and it demolished many buildings on four different blocks. It seriously damaged buildings that were over a half a mile away. The ensuing fireball started buildings burning on a number of streets. A large gothic church on the next block had a huge section ripped out of it. For an excellent article on this tragic fire by then new firefighter-and now, past BFD Fire Commissioner Mike Lombardo, go to: <http://mobile.firehouse.com/news/10570189/the-explosion>

VIDEO HERE:<http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/buffalo/Firefighters-remember-North-Division-Street-explosion>

AN EXPLOSIVE CLOSE CALL AT A GARAGE FIRE:

Take a look at this garage fire and explosion that recently happened in Washington State...and check out what the homeowner does in that garage. Could be any garage-and your (our) next garage fire:
<http://www.wenatcheeworld.com/news/2013/dec/27/video-captures-fireball-engulfing-wenatchee-firefighter/>

Take Care-Be Careful-Pass It On. BillyG The Secret List 12/27/13-2000 hrs

AND:

Hey,
Happy 2014! Where did 2013 go? Sheesh. You people are getting old.

While the world is worried about things such as the Kardashians, the words Phil Robertson has said for years, who can marry who, Obamacare and related stuff, we-you, me and them-continue to run calls, train, study and try not to get ourselves hurt, sick with cancer or killed. Consider that a reminder that statistically, cancer is our greatest threat...hundreds and hundreds of times more career ending, life altering and fatal to firefighters than anything else that happens to us. Anything else. In many areas, we do it with less resources and less support. Seem's that attacking firefighters became a bit of a hobby for some city hall dwellers in 2013. In some cases, we provided them with ammo-in most, we did not. For example, politicians "targeting" firefighter pensions in areas where those pensions are worth about \$40,000 a year-after 25 years of service. Some target. Of course, in other areas, the "square rooters" of our profession have worked the system to best benefit them. But that's rare.

SQUARE ROOTER: <http://tinyurl.com/mkmlwal>

That's not the norm. The norm is members doing beyond what's expected at their career, combination, call or volunteer firehouses. We leave ourselves open when the "Square Rooters" emerge, be it personally or individually, or organizational attitudes of not wanting to do:

- EMS (I was hired to fight fire, dammit)
 - PubEd (I'm not a people person)
 - Inspections (They don't prevent fires)
 - Training (Everything I ever needed to know, I learned in basic fire school)
- ...and other stuff that may qualify as whining.

Another area where some have left ourselves open to damage is refusing to change. I recently listened to a fire officer comment about their FD's newly proposed basement fire procedures. It was nothing radical. It suggested FF's not be in the flow path, have hoselines charged, extinguish the fire-crazy stuff like that. The department, which is a metro FD, busy, lots of fires, has flown more than a few firefighters to the burn unit following "basement diving" at fires. The comment was (said angrily, cause I guess he's angry) something like:

*"this is bs-we'll keep doing it **my** way-WTF do those clowns at headquarters know, anyway"...*
said the "veteran" 8 year FF, newly promoted to company officer.

We sometimes forget that "those clowns" joined the circus (<http://tinyurl.com/k2t8r6o>) well before our parents had foreplay. Those "clowns" were going to basement fires before Jr could spell baysement. Sometimes we'll/all need to just think before saying

"it sucks, its stupid, it wont work, I don't like it".

We're not saying all the ideas are great-far from it-but basement fires specifically have resulted in some pretty horribly burned firefighters over the years with less positive results. So, if there is a suggested better way-maybe we intelligently consider it, just consider it. That's all. Do a few drills. Just try it.

I mean, remember when you suggested **that**"new idea" to your spouse, partner etc? And your spouse IMMEDIATELY said: *"We are gonna WHAT!?!--that's stupid, THAT wont work, I don't like it. I am NO acrobat and I am NOT doing THAT".*

Oh snap.

Your spouse didn't even give you a chance to show how wonderful your new "relationship enhancing" idea was for the both of you. And now look at the two of you, loving that idea. Or maybe you are enjoying your new idea with a new spouse. Whatever it takes.

There are a lot of wild ideas out there-and that's probably good because people are thinking. Many of

them are nuts. But some are potentially good ideas that will greatly increase your chances of rescuing victims, getting water on the fire etc. Consider some of the ideas. Evaluate their research. Evaluate their experience. Evaluate their science., It's a mix of all that stuff. Just try it.

TAMPA 2 TOO!

Speaking of new ideas. This year also marks the 10 year anniversary of a bunch of veteran firefighters getting together in Tampa to discuss and develop some new ideas that became the 16 Initiatives. It worked out pretty well. Those peoples efforts definitely put a measurable dent in reducing unnecessary firefighter injury and death. The NFFF is hosting Tampa 2 on March 10-12, 2014. The summit will mark a milestone in FF survival, to reaffirm the initiatives, investigate what has changed, and identify what changes should be reflected to continue the industry's advances in safety. What's also cool is that the NFFF recognizes that there is new immersing leadership in our industry with generational succession impacts since the first summit. And that's a very good thing. Tampa 2 provides unique opportunities to develop the "Up and Comers," ...and the success of projects like this are critically dependent upon the contemporary experience and contributions of our younger fire officers.

PASS IT ON.

So, a few years ago I was approached to write a book. About what? I thought. What am I going to write that hasn't already been covered? Strategy? Engine? Rescue? Search? Hi-Rise? Fire Officers? Routine Runs? Buildings? Love? Smith. Salka. Downey, Coleman. Dunn. Norman. Montagna Brannigan. Lasky. Besides, since about 1982, my fireground experiences are based upon arriving in a fast, loud and well lit car, sizing up, keying a mike (hopefully after thinking), directing companies, fixing wrong, commending right and taking care of those who are expected to crawl the halls. So after some thought, I figured maybe what I do have to offer is access to a bunch of friends who have **"been there-done that"**. I am pretty fortunate to have gotten to know a bunch of experienced, scarred, seasoned and heroic folks whom I look up to.

We never stop learning.

So here is what we did. I reached out to one hundred or so well respected fire folks and asked them to give the reader some advise in about 750 words. That was it. No restrictions---they were told to just share "whatever" ...if you could personally talk to a firefighter, officer, chief-new or old-what would you tell them? And that's the book. Each one of them participated in the first edition of:

PASS IT ON...What We Know...What We Want You To Know.

Fireground operations and tactics? They said it.

People/personnel and personal stuff? It's in there.

Fairness/Unfairness? Covered.

Brotherhood, sisterhood, honor and tradition?

Leadership? Loads to read.

Education, Training, Change? Politics? Hiring? They said it-and a lot more.

So what you will read is purely theirs... neither I, or the folks at Pennwell edited anything they said. Veteran firefighters, officers, chiefs, commissioners, organizational leaders and those who teach us-all "pass it on." You'll definitely know many of the names, and will learn a few new ones. Some - as you might guess - had a lot to say-and there are many we simply couldn't squeeze in-so maybe there will be a volume 2, we'll see how this goes.

The bottom line is that some good firefighters out there, who may not ever have access to learn from some of these good people-may now have that chance, while donating to two excellent and respected

charities. It will be available in April, starting at FDIC, as well as online. By the way, the one stipulation I set was that neither the contributors or I will make any money on this project-and everyone agreed so 100% of writer royalties and fees will be shared, 50/50 between the Chief Ray Downey Scholarship Charity Fund and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. From my family, the FFCC crew and my FD to yours, we all wish you a very happy, healthy and peaceful 2014.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass it On.

BillyG along with GordonG, BrianK, ForestR, PatK, BarryF, RudyH, IggyK, ChrisS and Dan, Rick and Tom-our webmasters at www.Firecompanies.com

1-2-14 1537 Hours

AND:

FIREFIGHTER SURVIVAL ALERT

As you know, there have been 3 derailments involving Bakken* crude oil (*see definition and short video below) that have involved significant fires and BLEVE's, the most recent in North Dakota.

Here are the explosive incident videos:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ny4jBlxYqQ>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wXN6x-FGmEM>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=JlrEHUEygEo

(See below for a short video explaining "Bakken")

While the right folks are still investigating these incidents, there is very strong evidence that this type of crude oil is much more volatile than conventional heavy crude oil. Bakken oil is different from the traditional heavy crudes because it is prone to ignite at a lower temperature. Experts say lighter crudes, which contain more natural gas, have a much lower "flash point" the temperature at which vapors given off by the oil can ignite.

They want to get the word out to firefighters so we are aware and respond "appropriately." The other factor is that that Bakken crude is moving in very large volumes on "unit trains" that can involve up to 2 million gallons of product, so the risk is higher simply because more of it is moving. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration - <http://phmsa.dot.gov/portal/site/PHMSA>

(PHMSA) is issuing this safety alert to notify you that recent derailments and resulting fires indicate that the type of crude oil being transported from the Bakken region may be more flammable than traditional heavy crude oil. Based upon preliminary inspections conducted after recent rail derailments in North Dakota, Alabama and Lac-Megantic, Quebec involving Bakken crude oil, PHMSA is reinforcing the requirement to properly test, characterize, classify, and where appropriate sufficiently degasify hazardous materials prior to and during transportation. This advisory is a follow-up to the PHMSA and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) joint safety advisory:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/11/20/2013-27785/safety-and-security-plans-for-class-3-hazardous-materials-transported-by-rail> - published November 20, 2013 [78 FR 69745]. As stated in the November Safety Advisory, it is imperative that offerors properly classify and describe hazardous materials being offered for transportation. 49 CFR 173.22. As part of this process, offerors must ensure that all potential hazards of the materials are properly characterized.

Proper characterization will identify properties that could affect the integrity of the packaging or present additional hazards, such as corrosivity, sulfur content, and dissolved gas content. These characteristics may also affect classification. PHMSA stresses to offerors the importance of appropriate classification and packing group (PG) assignment of crude oil shipments, whether the shipment is in a cargo tank, rail tank car or other mode of transportation. Emergency responders

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

should remember that light sweet crude oil, such as that coming from the Bakken region, is typically assigned a packing group I or II. The PGs mean that the material's flashpoint is below 73 degrees Fahrenheit and, for packing group I materials, the boiling point is below 95 degrees Fahrenheit. This means the materials pose significant fire risk if released from the package in an accident.

As part of ongoing investigative efforts, PHMSA and FRA initiated "Operation Classification," a compliance initiative involving unannounced inspections and testing of crude oil samples to verify that offerors of the materials have been properly classified and describe the hazardous materials. Preliminary testing has focused on the classification and packing group assignments that have been selected and certified by offerors of crude oil. These tests measure some of the inherent chemical properties of the crude oil collected. Nonetheless, the agencies have found it necessary to expand the scope of their testing to measure other factors that would affect the proper characterization and classification of the materials. PHMSA expects to have final test results in the near future for the gas content, corrosivity, toxicity, flammability and certain other characteristics of the Bakken crude oil, which should more clearly inform the proper characterization of the material.

"Operation Classification" will be an ongoing effort, and PHMSA will continue to collect samples and measure the characteristics of Bakken crude as well as oil from other locations. Based on initial field observations, PHMSA expanded the scope of lab testing to include other factors that affect proper characterization and classification such as Reid Vapor Pressure, corrosivity, hydrogen sulfide content and composition/concentration of the entrained gases in the material. The results of this expanded testing will further inform shippers and carriers about how to ensure that the materials are known and are properly described, classified, and characterized when being shipped. In addition, understanding any unique hazards of the materials will enable offerors, carriers, first responders, as well as PHMSA and FRA to identify any appropriate mitigating measures that need to be taken to ensure the continued safe transportation of these materials.

PHMSA will share the results of these additional tests with interested parties as they become available. PHMSA also reminds offerors that the hazardous materials regulations require offerors of hazardous materials to properly classify and describe the hazardous materials being offered for transportation. 49 CFR 173.22. Accordingly, offerors should not delay completing their own tests while PHMSA collects additional information.

For additional information regarding this safety alert, please contact Rick Raksnis, PHMSA Field Services Division, (202) 366-4455 or E-mail: Richard.Raksnis@dot.gov. For general information and assistance regarding the safe transport of hazardous materials, contact PHMSA's Information Center at 1-800-467-4922 or phmsa.hm-infocenter@dot.gov
Happy 2014.

***WHAT IS BAKKEN? SEE BELOW:**

Take care. Be Careful. Pass it On.
BillyG (@billygoldfeder on Twitter)
<https://twitter.com/BillyGoldfeder>
The Secret List 1-4-14/1525 Hours

VIDEO:

The Bakken: North Dakota's Secret Oil Stash - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3rl80EJcQSg>

The Bakken formation is a rock unit from the Late Devonian to Early Mississippian age occupying about 200,000 square miles (520,000 km²) of the subsurface of the Williston Basin, underlying parts of Montana, North Dakota, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The formation was initially described by geologist J.W. Nordquist in 1953. The formation is entirely in the subsurface, and has no surface

outcrop. It is named after Henry Bakken, a farmer in Tioga, North Dakota who owned the land where the formation was initially discovered, in a boring for oil. Besides being a widespread prolific source rock for oil when thermally mature, there are also significant producible reserves of oil within the Bakken formation itself. Oil was first discovered within the Bakken in 1951, but past efforts to produce it have faced technical difficulties. In April 2008, a USGS report estimated the amount of recoverable oil using technology readily available at the end of 2007 within the Bakken Formation at 3.0 to 4.3 billion barrels (680,000,000 m³), with a mean of 3.65 billion. The state of North Dakota also released a report that month which estimated that there are 2.1 billion barrels (330,000,000 m³) of technically recoverable oil in the Bakken. Various other estimates place the total reserves, recoverable and non-recoverable with today's technology, at up to 24 billion barrels. A recent estimate places the figure at 18 billion barrels. In April 2013, the US Geological Survey released a new figure for expected ultimate recovery of 7.4 billion barrels of oil.

The application of hydraulic fracturing technology caused a boom in Bakken production since 2000. By the end of 2010 oil production rates had reached 458,000 barrels (72,800 m³) per day outstripping the pipeline capacity to ship oil out of the Bakken. The production technology gain has led a veteran industry insider to declare that the USGS estimates are too low.

AND:

Hey,

With icy roads, insanely cold temps and citizens pretending to safely drive SUV's, the potential for apparatus crashing and us generally getting clobbered out there is of great potential. While weather was not a direct factor in these two examples, they are good reminders:

In Missouri yesterday, multiple fire companies were dispatched to a barn fire in Cape Girardeau County. An engine company rolled over on its way to the fire but no one was hurt as the Firefighter/driver was belted in. The engine's driver was reportedly experienced and was wearing a seatbelt-but could not make a specific turn. **HERE** is more and some video:

<http://www.kfvs12.com/story/24356891/multiple-crews-called-to-barn-fire-in-cape-girardeau-county>

In Not Freezing Southern California:

A hit-and-run driver sideswiped a San Diego fire truck. The San Diego Fire Department said the wreck occurred at 0030 hours when their light & air unit was returning to quarters from a two-alarm fire downtown when the unknown vehicle struck it and kept driving. Only one firefighter was inside the vehicle. He was not injured.

AND in Brazil yesterday, a fire apparatus overturned in the city of São Paulo, while responding on a run. Two FFs were trapped but were rescued with minor injuries. Video in the link below.

<http://m.g1.globo.com/sao-paulo/noticia/2014/01/caminhao-dos-bombeiros-tomba-na-zona-leste-de-sp.html>

FINAL WORD:

It is with deep regret that we pass on that Firefighter/Paramedic William "Billy" Trapnell has died as a result of an on duty (Coast Guard) medical emergency. Billy lived and worked in Maine where he served as a Petty Officer in the United States Coast Guard-Boston Sector. Prior to entering the Coast Guard, Billy served as a member of the Citizen's Fire Company #1 of Oberlin in Dauphin County - PA and was also a former live-in FF at Rohrerstown Fire Company 67 in Lancaster County. After moving to Maine, he worked for the York Ambulance Association, South Berwick Fire and Rescue, and York Village Fire Department. **Billy passed away as a result of a medical emergency while on duty as a Paramedic. Billy leaves behind a wife and new born daughter.**

MAINE CALLING HOURS ARE TODAY: Calling hours for Billy will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. TODAY-Saturday, Jan. 4, in the Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home, 91 Long Sands Road, York.

PA funeral services and burial will be held in Harrisburg, PA.

Memorial contributions may be made to Tara L. Trapnell, c/o Kennebunk Savings Bank, for the Adalynn N. Trapnell Educational Fund, the Billy Trapnell Memorial Fund and other community services. Visit www.lucaseatonfuneralhome.com.

Thanks to www.centralpabravest.com for the heads up on this very sad loss.

Take Care. Be Careful. Slow Down. Buckle In. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1-4-14/1258 Hours

AND:

All,

It is with deep regret that we pass on to you that Deputy Fire Chief Ronald E. Wentzel, Jr passed away this morning. The Chief fought a long and heroic battle with brain cancer, longer then was expected. Brain cancer is one clearly noted cancer as targeting firefighters. The Chief was the beloved husband of Dianne Wentzel and devoted father to his young son Josh.

Chief Wentzel served as 1st Deputy Chief for the City of Reading PA, as well as Deputy Chief of Western Berks, since its establishment in 2009 and also in a variety of leadership positions with the Liberty Fire Co. of Sinking Spring prior to its consolidation in 2009. Chief Wentzel impacted countless number of lives as a public servant in the police, fire, and emergency medical fields for over four decades throughout Berks County, PA and in the US. Chief Wentzel's knowledge, expertise and personality in public safety extended nationwide as a local-level fire instructor with the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy, a member of the NHRA Safety Safari, and a member of the East Central PA Incident Management Team. Prior to working for the City of Reading, he was a Police Officer for the Borough of West Lawn and promoted through the ranks to Police Chief.

Information on the services for Chief Wentzel will be posted on the below Facebook page as it becomes available. Ronnie was an inspiration to many and as an instructor, he was able to travel and pass on his infamous knowledge to many. He was able to teach many to be calm, cool and collective even with the worst incidents. He made training more interesting and encouraged those around him to want to train more and better themselves. Most would consider Ronnie to be a hero, an inspiration to many. We would have to agree as he was ALWAYS willing to help others in their time of need. It was his passion and a calling that he proudly answered! No matter the time of day he always answered the call and was able to do so due to a supportive family.

Our thanks to Fire Alerts of Berks County and the many others who shared their thoughts in letting us know of his passing this morning.

DIDN'T KNOW "MOOSE?" = You will now: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uDT7MQOp2yQ>

FUNERAL AND MEMORIAL UPDATE

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Fire-Alerts-of-Berks-County/556205947739134>

<https://www.facebook.com/hashtagmoosestrong>

<http://www.readingpafire.com/custom.html?id=15454#.Tzh3DFNYVEw.facebook>

<http://www.westernberksfire.org/home.php>

https://www.facebook.com/WesternBerksFD?ref=br_tf

RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

ARE YOU A FIREFIGHTER <http://tinyurl.com/nzr93yj>

BillyG

The Secret List 1/12/14-1337 Hours

AND:

All.

Twenty one years ago today, on January 12th 1992, Prince George's County (Maryland) Engine Company 27 (Morningside VFD) was dispatched to 3807 Walls Lane in their due area for a dwelling fire. Firefighter Kenneth Michael Hedrick was riding the Engine that day and responded on the run. Kenny entered the house and rescued a 7 year old boy who was trapped inside. Kenny went back inside to search for other reported trapped occupants. While searching the basement Kenny became trapped under debris and died in the Line of Duty.

MORE INFO: <http://www.morningsidevfd27.com>

Kenny's Mom & Dad (Former Fire Chief Les, and Cathy) were and are still active members at Company 27. They are also both active members of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and MANY of you know the wonderful Cathy Hedrick, Kenny's Mom and active staffer with the NFFF. Members of Co.27 along with Prince George's County Fire/EMS will be honoring the memory of Kenny today.

HERE is an interview with Cathy from [Firehouse.com](http://www.firehouse.com): <http://tinyurl.com/4f63ndw>

If you would like to make a donation to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in Kenny's name please visit www.firehero.org . RIP Kenny.

RELATED:

Two videos about Company 27: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slp39AHx1ag>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0b8rjQgHqg>

VOLUNTEER RULING:

By now, hopefully, you are aware that late last week, the Treasury Department issued a clarification that fire departments will not have to provide health insurance to volunteer firefighters. Here is a link with details. Good work by the IAFC along with CFSI, NVFC and those who worked hard to get this fixed....as it could have been real bad for hundreds of thousands of FFs, and more critically, their communities. Common sense wins. Again. This time. And Speaking Of Volunteers: ACTION ITEM: The NVFC award nominations are open for a few more weeks. Feel free to nominate a candidate and to pass on the link on to anyone who may be interested:

<http://www.nvfc.org/news-and-events/current-news/3105-nomination-period-now-open-for-the-nvfc-s-annual-awards>.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1-12-14 / 0722 hours

AND:

NJ FIREFIGHTER LODD-HEART ATTACK

We regret to advise you that Cliffside Park (NJ) FF Cosmo Paris, 59, has died in the Line of Duty. Firefighter Paris responded to an automatic fire alarm on -1-6-14 which created a hazard in the building necessitating fire officials to order a stand-by at the location for a fire watch. The fire watch duty extended 16 hours in sub-freezing temperatures. A short time after the fire watch concluded, FF

Paris suffered a heart attack while operating a motor vehicle. Firefighter Paris was discovered by police then treated and transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his injury on 1-8-14. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

SERIOUS APPARATUS CRASH IN TEXAS

One person was seriously injured when a car and an Austin Fire Department fire truck collided in Texas. The incident happened around 0600 today in an intersection when a fire apparatus was heading to an emergency and traveling with its sirens on. As the truck paused to look for oncoming traffic, a white car slammed into the front passenger side of the truck. The car spun and the fire truck pushed it about four feet across the road. The driver of the white car was taken to the hospital with serious injuries. No firefighters were hurt.

A \$350.00 i-Thermal Imager!? (Yeah: Three Hundred And Fifty Bucks)

As technology continues to amaze us (or at least me), at this years CES 2014-for example-they are showing tech stuff such as an add-on that turns your phone into a functional medical tricorder, a case that turns your phone into a 650,000-volt stun gun, and..WHOA.....a phone case that turns your iPhone 5 or 5S into a thermal imaging device. WTF!? Sure, it may not (yet!) withstand heavy heat conditions, but think of how it could be used on a scene.

HERE is Flir's website:

<http://www1.flircs.com/flirone/>

HERE is a media article:

<http://tinyurl.com/onfqeew>

AND HERE are some articles about "whats hot" at this years Consumer Electronic Show:

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2429234,00.asp>

<http://www.fastcodesign.com/3024602/12-of-the-best-ideas-from-ces-2014>

<http://tinyurl.com/pelcw48>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/9/14 - 1427 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A bicyclist died after getting hit by a fire apparatus in North Charleston (South Carolina) late last night. The bicyclist was riding along Cross County Road at the time of the wreck. The NCFD fire crew was responding to a call just before the crash and did have lights and a siren activated. The incident occurred around 2300 hours last night. Keep an eye on www.SConFire.com for additional details, along with our home page.

"...AND THIS WON'T IMPACT SERVICE OR RESPONSE TIMES..."

We continue to offer the WTF?! award to all those city hall dwellers who make that statement. In the latest of the hit parade, London England closed 10 fire stations yesterday including the oldest active fire station in Europe that was built in 1872. Apparently it survived two world wars but not the axe of "award winner" Mayor Boris Johnson. It won't impact service, until someone needs service.

HERE ARE VIDEOS: <http://www.counterfire.org/index.php/news/16901-emotional-scenes-as-fire-stations-fall-to-boris-johnsons-axe>

IN MAYORS WORDS:

<http://www.lbc.co.uk/boris-closing-fire-stations-is-the-right-way-forward-83931>

AND...HIZHONOR IS ALSO WANTING TO MERGE POLICE AND FIRE.

<http://londonist.com/2014/01/revealed-boris-johnsons-secret-plan-to-merge-police-and-fire-services.php>

THANKLESS JOB:

A West Des Moines (Iowa) man was arrested for chest-bumping a firefighter who was trying to shut off water to his flooding building this week. Firefighters were at an apartment building in West Des Moines trying to shut off water. The building already had about a foot of water on the ground, and water continued to pour through the ceiling. Citizen Gregory Dean Watson, 56, who appeared intoxicated, allegedly yelled at a firefighter to do something about the flooding and chest-bumped him. Then he said he would fight the firefighter. Nice. A firefighter held Watson down on the ground until police arrived and he was charged with public intoxication and interference with official acts. You're welcome.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/1014-0758 Hours

AND:

All,

This morning at approximately 0755 hours, Medford Farms Volunteer Fire Company (Tabernacle Twp, Burlington County, NJ) E4311 was responding to an incident in Southampton, Burlington County. While travelling north on Rt. 206 the engine was involved in a serious motor vehicle accident involving 4 other vehicles. The roads in the area were ice covered at the time due to freezing drizzle. As a result of the impact, the engine's chauffer was ejected and transported to Cooper Trauma for evaluation. The chauffer (driver) remains hospitalized at this time. The balance of the crew of 4 were transported to Virtua-Mt Holly for evaluation. There were no injuries to the drivers or passengers in the other vehicles involved. Please keep their chauffer in your thoughts and prayers. E4311 will be out of service until further notice after receiving extensive damage. The Medford Farms leadership would like to thank the Tabernacle Rescue Squad, Indian Mills Fire and Rescue and Hampton Lakes Fire Company for their professional assistance this morning at a very difficult scene. As one would expect this is a very difficult time for their community and all involved. Station 431's officers and members would like to thank all the organizations that have contacted us to offer assistance with equipment and to offer their prayers. We'll keep you updated on their FF/driver progress as its made available.

INVESTIGATORS LOOKING FOR TWO FIREFIGHTERS...

Ohio State Fire Marshal investigators are looking for two out-of-state firefighters who helped save people from a southern Ohio restaurant fire. The historic Emmitt House restaurant caught fire Monday evening in Waverly. The State Fire Marshal's Office has learned that two off-duty firefighters from Pennsylvania were at the Emmitt House at the time. The firefighters helped get people out of the building after they determined something was wrong. Investigators are hoping to track down the firefighters to interview them about what they saw. The estimated loss of the fire was between \$1.5 - 2 million. A neighboring building also suffered heavy damage. The Ohio Fire Marshal's Office can be contacted at 800-589-2728.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1-10-14 / 1505 Hours

AND:

GEORGIA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL WHILE RESPONDING

We regret to pass on to you the Line of Duty Death of FF Christ Swan of the Lockheed Martin

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Aeronautical Fire Department, Marietta, Georgia. Firefighter Swan passed away from an unknown medical issue while responding to a fire alarm call Friday night 1-10-2014. Due to circumstances beyond our control, the time and location of the funeral service has been changed.

DETAILS:

Funeral Arrangements:

Visitation: Friday 1-17 from 10AM-8PM Gregory Levett & Sons FH, 4347 Flat Shoals Parkway, Decatur, Ga 30034

Service: Saturday 1-18 @ 3pm, St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, 2560 Tilson Road, Decatur, Ga 30032 - Our condolences to all those who are impacted by this loss. RIP

FIRE APPARATUS OVERTURNS IN MISSISSIPPI

Two firefighters escaped injury this afternoon around 1400 hours when their apparatus overturned after they deliberately left the roadway on I-10 west to avoid striking vehicles ahead of them which had stopped suddenly due to an accident. The apparatus from the Bayside Fire Department in Bay St. Louis was responding to an crash on I-10 today when traffic ahead of the truck came to a sudden stop. In order to avoid hitting vehicles ahead of them, the firefighter driving the truck swerved off the road to the right and the truck overturned down an embankment.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/13/2014-2044 Hours

AND:

All,

A former Lincoln County (KY) Fire Chief was killed last night when his car collided with a Lincoln County EMS ambulance that was transporting a patient to the hospital. Cops state that the chief had the green light as the ambulance passed thru the red light. Ex-Chief Walter Manuel, 79, who died at the scene, was chief of the Lincoln County FD's Station One in the 1980s. He was retired. The crash happened in the early evening when that ambulance was traveling north (in Stanford) on U.S. 27 with its siren and lights, transporting a patient who was experiencing a "cardiac event" - and Ex Chief Manuel apparently was leaving a nearby Dairy Queen, where he had been drinking coffee---and as he pulled out, the ambulance struck the driver's side of his vehicle-killing him instantly. According to cops, the ambulance did have its emergency equipment on, lights and siren, but it had a red light and didn't stop when it went through the intersection. Police say Chief Manuel had the green light. The patient and the EMS crew were all injured and updates will follow. We wish the EMS crew a rapid recovery.

RIP Chief.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/15/14-2050 Hours

AND:

MARYLAND FF LODD-MEDICAL

It is with deepest regrets that the Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department announces a Line of Duty Death (LODD). James "Doc" Delbert Brooks, a 20-year volunteer member of the Department passed away on Wednesday, January 15, 2014, after suffering a medical emergency while on duty the previous week. Doc Brooks, 62 years-old, was a resident of Camp Springs, Maryland. On Monday, January 6, Brooks, a member of the Prince George's Volunteer Marine Fire Rescue, was winterizing the boats and station in preparation of record low temperatures forecasted for the following day. Shortly after midnight, while still at the Marina located in Fort Washington, he experienced difficulty breathing and called 911. Firefighters and paramedics

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

arrived to find Brooks in cardiac arrest and immediately began pre-hospital care. He was transported to a nearby medical facility and subsequently relocated to Medstar at Washington Hospital Center in "critical" condition. Doc Brooks was surrounded by his wife, family members, and colleagues throughout his time in the hospital. Jan Demeritt, Deputy Chief of the Volunteer Marine Fire Rescue, also maintained a constant vigil and was at his bedside when he passed. "On behalf of the Brooks family, I want to thank everyone for their continued support during this difficult time," said Demeritt. Prince George's County Fire Chief Marc S. Bashoor stated, "This is indeed a dark time for the Department, in particular, the Volunteer Marine Fire Rescue, as we mourn the passing of a friend and colleague. Brooks was concerned about how the cold weather would affect the rescue boats and the barge that serves as their station. He wanted to ensure their readiness, in the event they were called to duty." A memorial service with full fire department honors is currently being planned. Arrangements will be provided on his site: <http://pgfdpio.blogspot.com/> - RIP Doc Brooks

Final Word:

PA FIRE CHIEFS PASSES AFTER BATTLE

The Fire Chief of the Transfer VFD (Sharon County, PA) has passed away. Chief Phil Steele passed away unexpectedly Tuesday evening shortly after appointing his new officers in the Transfer Volunteer Fire Department's station, a place he called home for 35 years - 22 as chief and 28 as a paramedic. Chief Steele, 53, had been ill for some time and was awaiting a kidney transplant. A fundraiser held last spring by his family and friends raised \$29,000 to help with his medical expenses. Our condolences to all affected.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/16/2014-1527 Hours

AND:

Hey,

There is a brand new edition of the Fire Service-Based EMS Tool Kit that the fire service been working on. It is a "must download" for any FD that runs any aspect of emergency medical services. Click on the below link for the document as well as an excellent article that is in the January 2014 Edition of *Firehouse* and will be in the next Edition of *Speaking of Fire* from IFSTA. This excellent document represents a successful joint effort on the part of representatives from the Metro Chiefs, the IAFF, IAFC, IFSTA and the CFSI....so..... ..check it out!...and please forward, share etc.

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/201723>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/15/2014 0100 Hours

AND:

Hey,

This first story is especially important for FF's in the NY Metro area. Colin Flood is the son of FDNY FF Kevin Flood of Engine 210. Colin needs extremely risky liver surgery to remove a bad infection. The 2 major risks are infection and bleeding. The liver is filled with blood vessels and Colin having little to no platelets makes it very dangerous. He will be getting 1-2 transfusions a DAY for the next few weeks. If anyone can donate platelets PLEASE come to Memorial Sloan Kettering Blood Center. They offer free parking and any info needed is on their website (mskcc.org/giving/blood). He will also need bloodbut platelets are a priority for him right now. Be aware that anyone can donate.

IF YOU CAN help: send me an e-mail and I will get you in touch with the right folks at FDNY- Thanks, BillyG

FIREFIGHTER BURNED-UPDATE FROM TEXAS

Lindale (TX) FF Joe Yeakley was flown to (and remains in critical condition) at Parkland Hospital from that house fire yesterday. He has 50% burns, mostly 2nd degree, and some 3rd. He was conscious when they found him and its reported that he actually helped rescue himself. Intubation was done to protect his airway...he had an MRI done and was taken to the burn unit. He will remain intubated for several days as a precaution from fluids and the swelling. The hospital made incisions down his arms because of the swelling and to help maintain blood flow to his extremities. He may undergo some surgery next day or two to clean and prepare arms for skin grafts. As with any burn victim, the critical issue now is infection and airway management. Yeakley is a 14 year veteran with Lindale FD with nearly 30 years in the fire service. An account has been set up at Texas Bank & Trust. Financial donations can be sent to: Lindale VFD, FBO Joe Yeakley, P.O. Box 8, Lindale, TX 75771. Keep him in your prayers-more to follow.

SNORKEL DADDY:

Chicago Fire Commissioner Robert Quinn: The father of the FD Snorkel...a very powerful and colorful leader...take a moment to read this great story:

<http://my.chicagotribune.com/#section/-1/article/p2p-78941552/>

Also...here are some great vintage CFD videos:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XTsuHTx4f4&list=PLslsSOtj613FOuDf9Jldj_PLukMaECTNJ (The Snorkel)

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ChicagoFD1?feature=watch>

http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLslsSOtj613FOuDf9Jldj_PLukMaECTNJ

GREAT VINTAGE FIRE VIDEOS:

THE STREETS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO...FIRE DEPT (VIDEO)

Some of you may remember the TV show, "The Streets of San Francisco",,,here is the "fire" episode with some great, classic clips of the SFFD in very early 70's.

<http://youtu.be/9usvuHNRJuk>

AND FOR THOSE WHO MAY HAVE MISSED IT...check out this equally (4 minute) classic Philly FD video:

http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=CzdWNlfXmLA&desktop_uri=%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DCzdWNlfXmLA

ALF GONE...Once Again.

SConFire.com has confirmed that American LaFrance LLC (Fire Apparatus Builders) based in Moncks Corner, Pimlico and Ephrata Pahave CLOSED their DOORS today @ 5pm. Telling employees they are closed and not to return next week. They have reached out to Patriarch Partners the Parent Company of ALF for comment. They will bring more news as soon as they can confirm more details. Estimates are over 150 people are out of a job Friday due to these actions.

DETAILS HERE: <http://sconfire.com/?p=2687>

Final Word....

FIREFIGHTER REMEMBERED: LINE OF DUTY DEATH IN NEW JERSEY

Friday marked the 31st Anniversary of the Line Of Duty Death of New Milford, NJ Firefighter William Entwistle, 22, while operating at a general alarm fire at New Milford's Borough Hall. He became the 4th LODD in the history of New Milford. Billy had climbed the stairs to the 2nd floor when a backdraft occurred. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/18/14-2051 Hours

AND:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Hey,

A Lindale (Smith County, Texas) FF is in critical condition and three others were injured while operating in a house fire this morning. Around 1245 companies turned out to a 3000 sq foot single family dwelling on Childress Drive in the Lindale area. About 40 minutes into it, a Lindale Firefighter became trapped as the garage area collapsed around him. The firefighter was flown to Parkland Hospital in Dallas and at last check was in critical condition. Three other firefighters, one from Lindale and two from Dixie, were able to escape the collapse. More details below. The injured FF's are Lindale's Joe Yeakley and Dixie's Caleb Snider. Yeakley remains in critical condition at Parkland Medical in Dallas after receiving burns to his face and hands after a partial roof collapse. Yeakley is a 14-year veteran with the Lindale Fire Department and nearly 30 years in fire service. Snider also received minor burns on his arms during the incident. He was treated for his injuries at a local hospital and has been released. Snider has just over a year of experience. Companies from Lindale, Dixie, Red Springs, and Noonday responded.

Initial reports are that the homeowner was watching TV in the den area of the home when he noticed smoke. He ran outside to get a water hose and the door locked behind him. He then saw fire in the master bedroom and decided to go for help, but after attempting to wake several neighbors he finally saw an electric company truck and they called 911. When firefighters arrived on scene they made an interior attack on the house and the roof of the garage collapsed. One firefighter was able to escape through a window and other firefighters located the second FF a few minutes later. We will keep you posted-there is video on our home page. Keep'm in your thoughts.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/17/2014-0829 Hours

AND:

All,

There was a tragic crash **last night** involving responding fire apparatus and a civilian vehicle near Tomlinson State Park in New Manchester, WV. Initial details are that the 3 dead are Oak Glen High School Students from Newell, Chester and New Cumberland areas. Additionally, reports are that the car struck the rig- that was responding on a run - and that there are serious injuries to at least two Firefighters as well. We'll keep you updated as more details are made available. KTIYP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On. BillyG - The Secret List 1-19-14/1030 hours

AND:

All,

Three Oak Glen High School (Hancock Co., WVA) students are dead and 3 Firefighters were injured following a horrific head-on crash between the teens' car and a responding New Manchester fire apparatus Saturday night. Reports and evidence on the roadway reveal the car attempted to pass another vehicle while driving south on state Route 8 around 2100 hours when it collided with the fire apparatus traveling north on the road responding to a chimney fire. The driver of the car, Krysten Butcher, 16, of Newell, and Kaylin Blake Rice, 16, of Chester, were pronounced dead at the scene. John Snow III, 16, of New Cumberland, was taken to East Liverpool City Hospital where he died of injuries sustained in the accident.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

The three New Manchester firefighters (of the six on board) were treated for injuries at the East Liverpool City Hospital and all three have since been released. **All the NM FF's performed heroic attempts to save the kids, regardless of their own injuries.** Our thoughts and prayers for all affected.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On. BillyG - The Secret List 1-19-14/2159 hours

AND:

All,

It was yesterdays date, in 2011 when **Firefighter Mark Falkenhan** of Baltimore County's Lutherville VFD, Maryland, a highly respected veteran career and volunteer Firefighter, died in the Line of Duty at a fire when he became trapped in a multi-family dwelling on Dowling Circle. His death is as horrific as any FF death-as his facepiece melted while trapped. FF Falkenhan and his partner entered and made their way into the building to search for victims,

-without a hoseline or the protection of one,

-doors left open,

-and as the NIOSH report headline states, when he became trapped, he was killed when HIS FACEPIECE MELTED due to the fire conditions he was trapped in.

The apartment, like ANY dwelling any FF operates in today-is filled with plastics and other petro-chemical based consumer items (carpeting/flooring, furniture, TV's etc) that create a gas filled and subsequent fire environment of explosive potential. Firefighters searching saw fire in the corner of the apartment shortly before coming across a victim-but those conditions were not communicated via radio. At 1841 hours, crews were ordered to evacuate the building and about a minute later Falkenhan called a MAYDAY. At 1850 hours, Firefighters found Falkenhan unconscious and eventually removed him from the building.

As hopefully you will also know-or will now know that the Fire Protection Engineers from the ATF Fire Research Laboratory worked with the Baltimore County FD to create a computer model of the fire that resulted in the Line of Duty Death of FF Mark Falkenhan on January 19th, 2011. The following 36 minute video details the entire incident, beginning with the 911 call and ending after the firefighter MAYDAY.

HERE IS THE LINK TO THE ATF VIDEO/AUDIO OF THE DOWLING CIRCLE FIRE:

<http://www.atf.gov/explosives/programs/research-development/fire-research-lab.html>

HERE IS THE EDITED RADIO TRAFFIC:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMsc8nuEvVw>

HERE IS THE NIOSH REPORT:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face201102.html>

Once again-the above information provides us with an excellent opportunity to learn, and HONOR the memory of FF Mark Falkenhan. RIP.

OPERATING AT DWELLING FIRES - RELATED FROM UL:

There has been a steady change in the residential fire environment over the last several decades, including larger homes, open floor plans and increased synthetic fuel loads...and some of the previous ways of us operating **will not work...and it has been proven by Firefighters working with UL.**

READ MORE HERE ABOUT THE FACTS, not emotions, BY FF's FOR FF's RELATED TO OPERATING AT DWELLING FIRES:

<http://ulfirefightersafety.com/>

<http://www.nist.gov/fire/>

SOLUTION: WATER.

HOUSE FIRE VIDEO:

Here is an excellent **CLOSE CALL** video related to ventilation and/ or the critical task of water on the fire **ASAP** - Take a look: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNUsUI810xc&feature=player_embedded

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/20/14-0659 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Toledo (Ohio) is working a fire this afternoon with reports of Firefighters down at a storefront with apartments above fire, on Magnolia. Members were operating and there was a MAYDAY, the members were found, both in cardiac arrest. They have been taken to St Vincents Hospital. Keep'm in your prayers-much more to follow.

WATCH THOSE ELECTRICAL POWER LINES.

A Columbia (MO) FD apparatus sustained heavy fire damage this morning after its aerial ladder touched a high-voltage electric transmission line in the driveway of fire station No. 4. The station's crew was conducting a routine check of its 2009 Sutphen at 0936 hours when the rig's 75-foot aerial ladder touched a high-voltage electrical transmission line. A Firefighter on the rig was able to jump off and was not injured. The following fire heavily damaged the truck. Additional fire crews arrived and worked to prevent the fire from spreading to the firehouse. Crews had to wait about 45 minutes until the electric line was de-energized before they could extinguish the fire on the engine. Columbia Water and Light crews at the scene estimated that between 500 and 1,000 customers were without power during the incident.

RELATED:

Close calls and Line of Duty Deaths by electrical contact is not new and a constant hazard of he job.

HERE IS A REPORT WORTHY OF REVIEW:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200801.html>

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/26/14-1545 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Two Florida Firefighters are in the hospital with multiple injuries after being injured while operating at a structure fire in Fort Myers early this morning. The fire came in around midnight at the "Omega Youth Community Development" building. The building was being renovated. One man, the caretaker-- was living in a back apartment. He smelled smoke, called 911 and got out. While fighting the fire, a wall collapsed on two firefighters. Other Firefighters were able to remove the injured members . One of the firefighters has a hip fracture and the other is in the intensive care unit suffering from rib and clavicle injuries. The injuries appear to be NLT.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On. BillyG - The Secret List 1/24/14-0700 hours

AND:

All,

January 23, 2005 was "Black Sunday" in New York when FDNY Lt. Curtis W. Meyran (covering February 2, 2014

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Ladder 27 that day) and FF John G. Bellew (Ladder 27) died in the Line of Duty at an apartment fire in the Bronx. Four other FF's were injured: Jeffrey Cool (Rescue 3) the late Joseph DiBernardo (whose recent death was considered line of duty due to this incident, Rescue 3), Brendan Cawley (Ladder 27) and Eugene Stolowski (Ladder 27). **All 6 FF's were forced to jump from the 4th floor of the apartment building as they were trapped by the fire.** And, as you'll also remember, at a separate incident in Brooklyn that day, just 3 hours after the Bronx fire, FF Richard T. Sclafani (Ladder 103) was killed in the Line of Duty after getting trapped in the basement while operating at a residential fire.

HERE are links to reports, videos and articles as we remember those who were injured and killed that day.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200503.html> (NIOSH Report-BRONX FIRE)

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200504.html> (NIOSH Report-BROOKLYN FIRE)

<http://nymag.com/news/features/26574/index3.html> (EXCELLENT NY Magazine Article Bronx Fire Double LODD)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvxtBC2gQ1g&sns=em> (IAFF Presentation-FDNY FF Jeff Cool)

<http://community.fireengineering.com/video/video/show?id=1219672%3AVideo%3A591291> (Fire Engineering; FDNY FF Jeff Cool)

====RELATED: 2014 FIRE FIGHTER SEMINAR: <http://www.joeydfoundation.org/>

The Lt. Joseph P. DiBernardo Memorial Foundation will be holding their 2nd Annual Training Seminar at the Hyatt Regency Long Island Hotel the evening of May 16th, 2014 and the day of May 17th, 2014. This unique, one of a kind Seminar, will feature a Friday evening get together in the hotel where you can sit down in a Hospitality Room with the instructors and other FDNY personnel and do a Q & A on a one to one basis. Saturday will be a full day of class room instruction from 0800 to 1700 hours, including lunch. Please check the above link ASAP.

RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On. BillyG - The Secret List 1/23/14-1335 Hours

AND:

All,

Around 0101 hours this morning, The Phoenixville (PA) FD turned out for a chimney fire. During fire operations, a member went down in sudden cardiac arrest. Immediate CPR and AED was initiated by the members. The downed FF was able to regain pulses and consciousness after these clearly life saving measures by the brothers and sisters. He was transported and remains in Phoenixville Hospital for treatment. Outstanding job. We wish the FF a rapid recovery.

FDNY TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU:

The FDNY 2014 Symposium which will be featuring High-Rise Building Fire Operations (commercial and residential) AND Mass Casualty Incident response with a focus on the December 2013 train derailment and terrorist incidents using fire as a weapon. FDNY Fire Officers will explain Command Procedures and Company Operations for commercial and residential high-rise buildings. EMS and Fire Officers will address all aspects of Mass Casualty Incidents, including extrication, stabilization, medical care, and transportation of victims from the scene. Furthermore, FDNY will present a study of operations at the recent NYC train derailment, incorporating Inter-Agency operations, new equipment specifically designed for use on rails, emergency medical triage procedures, and more. **NOTE:** Each year this is a sold out event - open to ALL Fire & EMS personnel - so please check it out and sign up now at: <http://www.fdneyfoundation.org/whats-happening/2014-fdney-symposium/>

WHEN CIVILIANS DIE IN FIRES-A STORY FROM VIRGINIA

Sometimes information gets mis-managed. I know, crazy, right!? Many times, an unknowing/un-

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

educated member of the media absolutely screws it up. Sometimes we handle the media rather poorly-at best. People like Dave Statter, former FF and TV reporter (*who I cautiously gave factual fire info to in the 80's, and he got it right...at least that time...so anything is possible!*) provide us-and media-with the great training opportunities so the fire service mis-communication is proactively minimised. And...sometimes, believe it or not, the "brotherhood" directly or indirectly feeds mis-information to media to keep things stirred up. WHAT?! Yeah. BMA.

Our worst days include the deaths of civilians in fires-especially kids. Attempting to save the lives of people who are trapped fires is as basic and core to our mission as you can get. It is our mission. We are willing to literally put it all on the line, risk it all or whatever fancy words you wanna use, when people are trapped in a fire. When we are unable to succeed, few but us, understand the "whole" of it. Our attempts to educate the public-via the media, so they can "possibly" get it, can be a challenge for a variety of reasons.

In Virginia, Albemarle County Fire Rescue officials had a real bad day, last Saturday, January 18th. A real bad day. The lost fire victims have been identified as Sayeda Nadia Ghaffer, age 34; Ammar Sheikh, age 7; and Aiza Hussain, age 2.

Unfortunately, the facts were lost by some media-as hard as that FD tried to provide the facts.

As was originally explained in their press release that was issued last Saturday morning, crews were dispatched to 870 Carriage Trail Place at approximately 1:30 a.m. for a structure fire. The first arriving unit was from the Monticello Station and arrived about 12 minutes after the initial call. A unit from the East Rivanna Station, which is located closer to the fire site, was responding to another call at the time for emergency medical service. That unit never actually reached the scene of the medical emergency but rather was quickly rerouted to the home on Carriage Trail Place. Personnel with that unit returned to the East Rivanna Station to switch vehicles and then responded immediately to the fire location, arriving one minute after the initial crew from the Monticello Station was on scene.

While there has been some discussion about the legal standard known as "abandonment" that requires medical personnel to stay with a patient until the patient is turned over to another agency, that circumstance did not exist in this situation since the East Rivanna unit never arrived on the scene of the EMS call -- but immediately reprioritized and diverted to the fire scene. What had happened is that media inappropriately reported that the East Rivanna crews abandoned a patient-or were obligated to stay at the initial EMS scene staging area-but that is not factual. But that is what was reported-creating the problem.

All indications from the scene cause fire officials to conclude that by the time the 911 call was made and units were beginning to respond, the fire was already too advanced to save the upstairs occupants, (all of whom perished in the structure itself), despite the heroic response of all responding units and those on the scene.

From The Chief:

"The fact that we had two units active on the scene within our established response time for rural areas is no consolation for the very tragic fact that three lives were lost in this fire," said Albemarle Fire Rescue Chief Dan Eggleston. "While we believe that the loss of life in this fire was very immediate, we recognize and appreciate the heroic rescue attempts made before our personnel arrived and by our personnel once they were on scene. Our thoughts are with the victims and their families at this very difficult time." As is always the case in a fatality situation, the names of the fire victims were withheld until all appropriate contacts were made and the medical examiners procedures were complete. Also as is standard in the case of a devastating fire of this nature, a careful and

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

thorough examination of the fire scene is necessary before a cause can be determined which officials anticipate will take several days at least. Although exact circumstances of this fire are still under investigation, Eggleston stressed the importance of ensuring working smoke detectors and developing a home evacuation plan as part of normal practice for all residents.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/23/14-1155 Hours

AND:

California Firefighter Dies In The Line Of Duty-Medical Emergency The Secret List

A 49-year-old Orange County Firefighter suffered an apparent heart attack yesterday, Monday at a fire station in Rancho Santa Margarita and was declared dead shortly afterward. Fire Engineer Greg Hennessey, a 24 year veteran, was found by his colleagues in full cardiac arrest at OCFA Fire Station No. 45 about 0940 hours on Monday. They immediately began lifesaving operations and transported him to Mission Hospital, where he was pronounced dead about 40 minutes later. He is survived by his mother Virginia, wife Deanna and two sons, Ryan, 22, and Brandon, 19. Funeral arrangements were being made. Our condolences to all affected.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On. BillyG - The Secret List 1/21/14-0127 hours

AND:

TWO TOLEDO FIREFIGHTERS TRAGICALLY DIE IN THE LINE OF DUTY

According to a Toledo FF's memorial site (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Toledo-Fire-Rescue-Last-Alarm-1262014/623465154357449>) , local media and city sources, two Firefighters were killed in the Line of Duty today, in an apartment over commercial fire near downtown Toledo. There is edited radio traffic linked below. The Mayor D. Michael Collins arrived at Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center after the two Firefighters were brought there, where naturally, a large crowd of Toledo Fire Rescue members gathered.

MEDIA REPORT WITH PHOTOS:

<http://m.toledoblade.com/Police-Fire/2014/01/26/Fire-at-Huron-and-Magnolia-downtown-Toledo.html>

AUDIO: EDITED FIRE RADIO TRAFFIC AND VIDEO:

<http://www.firefightersworldwide.com/2014/01/toledo-firefighters/>

RELATED TOLEDO FIRE WEBSITES:

<http://www.toledofirerescue.com/>

<http://www.iaff92.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Toledo-Fire-Rescue-Last-Alarm-1262014/623465154357449>

Much more to follow. Our thought and prayers to all affected. RIP.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

(Twitter: @Billygoldfeder)

The Secret List 1/26/14-2026 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Here's an update (10 minutes ago) from Chief Santiago in Toledo. As you know, ultimately, both (Pvts) FF Stephen Machcinski, 42, and FF James Dickman, 31, were caught in the conditions, found, rescued and rushed to Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center, where despite attempts to save them, they died in the Line of Duty. The Firefighters had entered the burning building with other firefighters after a dispatcher had advised, "Two-story apartment building - reported people are inside." Unfortunately-at

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

some point, conditions changed. "There were rapid changes, rapid deterioration of conditions," Fire Chief Luis Santiago said yesterday. Take a moment to read the additional-and check the links in this updated article:

TOLEDO UPDATE:

<http://www.toledoblade.com/Police-Fire/2014/01/28/Fire-chief-cites-rapid-changes-inside-building-for-2-deaths.html>

<http://m.toledoblade.com/Police-Fire/2014/01/28/Fire-chief-cites-rapid-changes-inside-building-for-2-deaths.html>

VIDEO OF THE CHIEF SPEAKING ABOUT THE FIRE:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aa-oygSUTBs>

TOLEDO RELATED: A TRAGIC FF FAMILY NOTE. One of the Firefighters killed in the Line of Duty in Toledo, is the younger brother of a Fort Wayne (IN) Firefighter. Veteran Firefighter Stephen Machcinski, 42....Machcinski's brother, Richard Machcinski, is a Fort Wayne Firefighter. Fort Wayne Fire IAFF Local 124 is working to coordinate efforts with off-duty staff to have a Fort Wayne Fire Department presence in Toledo. RIP.

RESOURCESLIKE WE HAVE NEVER HAD BEFORE!

I was sent a www posting yesterday where the host wrote that RIT and Mayday training are critically important, (absolutely!) but should come secondary to situational awareness training as mayday prevention..(certainly!) ..but further stated that: unfortunately, my (the writers) books, website and on-line stuff are all that exists for the fire service at this time.

Not exactly. In this day and age, there are more resources available to provide firefighters and officers training and related tools needed to be aware, size up etc-than ever before. We all have a responsibility to PASS IT ON, PASS IT ALL ON, and share everything we have or know, to everyone on this job.

Here are just a few:

IAFF (open to all FF's, IAFF members and non-members alike) <http://www.iaff.org/hs/fgs/fgsindex.htm>

IAFF: Related intro video to the above: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwKITTENsek>)

IAFC: http://www.iafc.org/files/rulesofengagementroe_poster.pdf

IAFC: <http://www.iafc.org/Operations/content.cfm?ItemNumber=957>

IAFC: <http://www.iafc.org/Operations/LegacyArticleDetail.cfm?ItemNumber=2731>

IAFC: www.firefighternearmiss.com

NFFF: <http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/resources/index.html#video>

NFFF: <http://firehero.org/training/>

ISFSI: <http://www.isfsi.org/Resources/modernconstruction/Default.aspx>

ISFSI: <http://www.isfsi.org/Resources/ResourceLinks.aspx>

NFA: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/> (A lifetime of educational, on and off campus opportunities: FREE)

USFA: http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/ops_tactics/

NIOSH FIRE: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/>

UL Firefighters: <http://ulfirefightersafety.com/>

NIST Firefighters: <http://www.nist.gov/fire/fftactics.cfm>

Look at sites (and magazines!) such as www.FireEngineering.com, www.FireHouse.com, www.FireRescue1.com, <http://www.firefightersworldwide.com/>, www.FireFighterNation.com, <http://www.firenuggets.com>, <http://www.firetactics.com/> along with The Art of Reading Smoke (free ppt, click download file) <http://tinyurl.com/pw52cxx>

POD CASTS? There is no shortage of tactical related POD CASTS!

<http://www.fireengineering.com/podcasts.html>

<http://www.firehouse.com/podcasts>

CURRENT ARTICLES?

Here's a great one-just one of dozens that came out on numerous sites, just this week:

Ventilation Limited Fire: Keeping it Rich and Other Tactics Based Off Science:

<http://www.fireengineering.com/articles/2014/01/ventilation-limited-fire-keeping-it-rich-and-other-tactics-based-off-science.html>

....and so much more - not enough space to list them all!

Along with NFPA, NVFC and even more-there have never been so many, no cost resources available to help any of us stay current on the issues of size up, tactical scene/situational awareness and related factors related to our and our victims survival. Don't ever let anyone suggest that there are little to no other resources available, other than what they may have to offer. From Chief to Probie- we all need as much information and resources that are available to help us identify, process, and comprehend the critical elements related to what may happen to us while planning, responding and operating. Knowing what is going on around us includes as getting and learning from much information as possible-from a diverse range of resources-as frequently as possible. Everyday is a training day. All of us need to take time to use (and share) all of the resources available as our responsibility to the job.

**THE PASSING OF TWO BELOVED FIREFIGHTERS:
BOSTON'S FRANKIE FLYNN:**

Chances are, if you walked past the firehouse on Boylston Street across from the Hynes some time in the last 28 years, you saw or spoke to Frankie Flynn. He was a firefighter and one of the happiest guys in the world. Frankie Flynn would talk to a telephone pole. He went on the job in 1986, assigned to Engine 33 in the Back Bay, and never left. He was always there. And he was always smiling. But a couple of months ago, he was suddenly wincing. "My back is killing me," he confided to other firefighters....

http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2014/01/28/death-goodlament-for-jake/lwsbGI086Q0Vw1Qp77Y4EO/story.html?s_campaign=8315

NEW YORK'S SAL MAZZA:

If you have been to FDIC or Firehouse Expo-you have seen Sal. If you read fire magazines, you have seen Sal's pictures. If you met him, you saw his big welcoming "old world Italian" smile. And last weekend was the last time he "turned out"...buffing and taking pictures in The Bronx. As one FDNY Chief stated last weekend: "Sal knows more about this job than most on this job". That was Sal. Sal Mazza of Maybrook NY in Orange County was a life long fire buff, firefighter and friend of the fire service. He had been a firefighter with the Maybrook volunteer FD and a member of the Orange County hazmat team. He volunteered with the Salvation Army Disaster Services canteen in the Bronx during the busy "war years" of the 70's, serving firefighters at many major incidents. Sal played a quiet but major role for the past decade helping to arrange canteen service during the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial Weekend events. He was the kind of man you did not need to ask for help. He just figured out what was needed and took care of it. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, he found a donated house trailer, loaded it up, and drove it to New Orleans to provide a temporary home for a displaced NOFD chief who was a friend. Sal set the example of Brotherhood. Sal is survived by his wife Nancy, daughter Courtney, and sons John and Justin, who is a member of the FDNY.

MORE details HERE:

<http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20140128/NEWS0301/301289984/-1/WAP>

RIP Sal and Frankie.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/28/14-1240 hours

AND:

All,

Every fire and EMS Department operates on roadways-so here is another one we need to know about and share with the troops in your firehouse. And while many FD's do what we are trained to do by folks such as www.ResponderSafety.com, **the drunks are everywhere...and we cannot expect normacy and directed behavior when they are involved.**

In this case, they were doing everything right while assisting a stranded motorist, using warning lights and arrow boards, yet still a careless, drunk semi-driver ran them over resulting in this tragic outcome. In this case, a tollway worker from Illinois died and an Illinois State trooper was hospitalized night after a fiery crash along Interstate 88. The trooper and the highway safety worker were helping a disabled semitrailer truck about 2145 hours in the eastbound lanes of I-88 in Aurora when another semitrailer truck barreled into them. District 15 State Trooper Douglas J. Balder, 38, was listed this morning in critical condition, but is conscious and expected to recover. Killed in the line of duty was Illinois Highway Safety Worker Vincent Petrella. Petrella had pulled over on Interstate 88 in Aurora in the bitter cold night for a semi that had broken down when another semi crashed into a state trooper's squad car which then crashed into his truck in a fiery explosion. Petrella, 39 and the father of two, died at the scene. Trooper Douglas J. Balder, 38, remains in critical but stable condition.

DUI DRIVER CHARGED: Cops charged Renato V. Velasquez, 46, in connection with the accident. Velasquez was charged with operating a commercial vehicle while impaired/fatigued, filing a false report of record and duty status, driving more than 14 hours and driving beyond the 11 hour rule, all class four felonies. He was also charged with failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident and failure to yield to stationary emergency vehicles in violation of the Illinois Scott's Law. Below are links to a local article for this tragic accident that occurred in Illinois night about 25 miles west of Chicago. While not a FF LODD, but roadway safety workers and cops work with us all, daily. In this case the Tollway Worker was killed and the State Trooper remains in critical condition after the fiery crash and extrication handled by the Aurora Fire Department. They were doing everything right while assisting a stranded motorist, using warning lights and arrow boards, yet still a careless, drunk semi-driver ran them over resulting in this tragic outcome.

It could have been any of us.

<http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20140127/news/701279681/>

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2014-01-28/news/chi-trooper-accident-maintenance-worker-20140127_1_tollway-worker-state-trooper-illinois-tollway

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/tollway-worker-killed-crash-illinois-highway-article-1.1593823>

<http://learning.respondersafety.com/>

All Hands Working (www.AllHandsWorking.org) is having a firefighter NHL Alumni hockey game on in Atlantic City, NJ at the Boardwalk Hall. With the help of the Philadelphia Flyers, New Jersey Devils, Adam Ferrara, Comcast, and a bunch of others, they have been able to start this as a annual hockey event. They are going to have the following games set for that day:

Game 1 Philly Fire Department Hockey vs FDNY Hockey Team

Game 2 Atlantic City Fire Department Hockey vs Atlantic City Police Department Hockey Team.

Game 3 The Red Line Classic Battle on the Boards game, which will feature FF's playing along with NHL Alumni.

Money from the game will benefit All Hands Working and The Barkann Helping Hearts.

(ABOUT THE FUND: <http://www.allhandsworking.org/about-us.php>)

If you and your family like hockey-this is a NOT TO BE MISSED event. If you and your family don't

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

like hockey, this is a NOT TO BE MISSED EVENT!

THEY ARE offering discounts on the group sales and single tickets, which can also be purchased on the website along with hotel rooms at a discount at www.TheRedLineClassic.comyou can also follow them @ [Twitter.com/redlineclassic](https://twitter.com/redlineclassic). **Please check out the event ASAP.**

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/29/14-1030 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Greensboro FF's were operating at a commercial building fire (auto sales) earlier this afternoon. Initial reports are that was a collapse while the members were operating. A Mayday was transmitted. We have been advised that some members have been flown out but a Chief on the scene did state to a reporter that all the firefighters were conscious and breathing.

=HERE are photos from the scene.

http://m.news-record.com/news/article_acbf9084-89d8-11e3-9f07-0017a43b2370.html

=ALSO follow www.firenews.net on the web and twitter for updates.

Reports are that the employees attempted to fight the fire but were able to get out. Keep the GFD FF's in your prayers. Much more to follow.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/30/14-1427 Hrs

AND:

Hey,

Here is an update on the individual Greensboro Firefighters injured in today's fire and collapse in North Carolina:

* Capt. Thomas Sterling Suddarth, a 15 year veteran of the department, was the most seriously injured of the four and is being treated at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem.

* Senior Firefighter Matthew Clapp

is being treated at Moses Cone Hospital for leg injuries. He has been with the department for five years.

* Capt. Shane Boswell, a 21 year veteran of the department, was treated for minor injuries and released from Cone hospital.

* Senior Firefighter Bryan Bachemin, who has been with the department for four years, was also treated for minor injuries and released from Cone hospital.

None of the injuries are life-threatening.

The Firefighters were injured while operating at he working fire, when the building, Import Knights Auto Repair, collapsed while they were inside. Initial reports indicate a vehicle inside the structure ignited, causing fire to spread and there are no reports of injuries to civilians. Peer support teams from the Charlotte and Salisbury Fire Department's have arrived to provide emotional support to the Firefighters and their families.

FIRE SCENE PHOTOS & VIDEOS HERE:

MEDIA:

http://m.news-record.com/news/article_acbf9084-89d8-11e3-9f07-0017a43b2370.html?mode=jqm

MEDIA: http://www.news-record.com/news/article_acbf9084-89d8-11e3-9f07-0017a43b2370.html

VIDEO FROM THE GFD CHIEF: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziXBMy2qpFo>

RAW VIDEO: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKnwluUMrqk>

February 2, 2014

www.chabotfire.com

64

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

MEDIA: <http://myfox8.com/2014/01/30/large-structure-fire-in-downtown-greensboro/>

We wish a rapid and healthy recovery to all affected.

THE FIRE FIGHTER NEAR MISS REPORTING SYSTEM IS BACK:

The [International Association of Fire Chiefs](#) (IAFC) is relaunching the [Near Miss Reporting System](#). Thanks to a grant from FEMA, the funding was provided to support the Near Miss's next-generation transition; this includes increased education and advanced technology transferred from the Department of Defense and will help the program become self-sustaining in the future. The relaunched Firefighter Near Miss is founded on efforts to grow Near Miss offerings to meet the needs of the fire service and to establish partnerships with like-minded organizations, all while keeping the program's core mission intact. The emerging Near Miss support community includes longstanding partners such as www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com, academic institutions such as Oklahoma State University's [International Fire Service Training Association](#), and [AlphaTRAC](#), an organization focused on crisis-decision training based in Westminster, Colorado.

The relaunch provides a dynamic experience that up-and-coming firefighters and EMS personnel can readily relate to.

Here's some of what you can expect:

- An updated report submission process, powered by AlphaTRAC's XCapture™ technology, for improved data collection and analysis
- Website enhancements that improve visitors' ability to find and share reports with the Near Miss community
- The launch of a new Near Miss training environment that includes:
 - A revamped *Report of the Week* - [sign up on the website](#)
 - A training bundle that will be piloted in February, including a short training video and tabletop scenarios based on Near Miss reports
 - A monthly scenario-based training simulation, using AlphaTRAC's AlphaACT® decision-making training applications.

Go to www.FireFighterNearMiss.com to share your near miss experiences, learn from the database of reports and train using real-world experiences. In addition, check out this recent IAFC webinar: [What to Expect with the New Near-Miss Reporting System](#). The Firefighter Near Miss Reporting System has long been a key tool in helping maintain a safe environment for fire and EMS members. See the new features and hear the history behind the reporting system in the above webinar from January 28, 2014.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 1/30/2014-1945 Hours

AND:

WEST VIRGINIA FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATH-CELL TOWER COLLAPSE

We regret to advise you that Nutter Fort Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix has confirmed that one of his Firefighters is among the dead from today's tower collapse in Summit Park. Initial reports are that members were performing a rescue and there was a secondary collapse leading to the Firefighters' death. Much more to follow. Nutter Fort is in Harrison County. Our condolences to all affected. RIP. More details HERE: <https://www.facebook.com/NutterFortFire>

INDIANA MEDIC LINE OF DUTY DEATH-MEDICAL

It is with deep regret we notify you of the line-of-duty death of Paramedic Gerald "Garry" Hammer of LaGrange County (Indiana) EMS. Paramedic Hammer suffered a fatal heart attack at approximately 0745 hours Friday just minutes after arriving home from a 12-hour overnight shift. He had made emergency responses during his tour of duty, including a 55-minute emergency transport from

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

LaGrange to Fort Wayne. He was 62 years old and leaves behind his wife, Pamela; daughters - Jenny, Janae Dull, and Joni Humbarger; and sons - Jeremy and Joshua. In addition to serving as a paramedic with LaGrange County EMS, he served as: LaGrange County Sheriff's Department SWAT Medic; Cadaver Dog Handler with Indiana Department of Homeland Security District 3 Search and Rescue Task Force; Deputy Coroner in LaGrange and Noble Counties; and was a member of the Primary Instructors Education Committee of the Indiana Board of EMS. He was also Critical Care certified and CISM certified. Please check out www.HomeTownHeroes.org for additional. Our condolence

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-1-14-1730 hrs

AND:

WILDLAND FIRE PILOT MISSING

Sad news from Arkansas in that Fire Pilot Jacob Harrell, who was scouting for wildfires in Arkansas, has been missing since Friday. He was flying a pattern for the Arkansas Forestry Commission in the western portion of the state when his plane apparently went down without any communication. The area where he is feared to have crashed is among the most steep and hard-to-reach areas in the state. Last week, multiple wildfires burned throughout Arkansas. Today, search parties looking for the pilot are having to contend with a wave of winter precipitation -- cold rain, sleet and snow. Harrell's regular job is as a police officer in the City of North Little Rock. However, he flies forestry missions and is a member of the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Fighter Wing.

HERE are more details:

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/nationnow/la-na-nn-arkansas-pilot-missing-20140201,0,7762033.story>

Thoughts and prayers to those involved.

SUPER BOWL FIREFIGHTERS?

Check out the very unique Meadowlands Fire Department:

http://www.northjersey.com/news/242699731_South_Bergen_volunteer_fire_departments_to_offer_mutual_during_Super_Bowl.html?mobile=1&ic=1&iphone=1

They also have a Facebook page under "Meadowlands Fire Dept " ...check it out.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-2-14/1620 hours

AND:

MISSISSIPPI FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-MEDICAL

We regret to advise you that an Amite County volunteer Firefighter died in the Line of Duty yesterday while fighting a wildfire east of Liberty. East Central Fire Chief Cam Sharp, who also is the county coroner, tells the media (HERE: <http://bit.ly/1lv5CzD>) that 57-year-old Dwight Hilton went into cardiac arrest. He was pronounced dead at the hospital. The fire began around 12:30 p.m. on the north side of [Mississippi Highway 24](#). The fire covered less than 10 acres but the woods and grass fire was a threat to some houses. The fire was put out. [Hilton](#) was a longtime volunteer for East Central.

It appears the fire was started in three different places and they are not ruling out arson. Our condolences to all affected. RIP.

WATCH THIS:

LAFD FIREFIGHTER CLOSE CALL-COLLAPSE

Check out this video of a facade collapse. Excellent training opportunity.

<http://youtu.be/GrhZLvtsDw>

Thanks to DaveS(tatter) for the heads up on this clip.

Take Care. Be Careful. Pass It On.

BillyG

The Secret List 2-4-14-1819 hours

FIRE SERVICE SAFETY, TRAINING & NEWS STORIES TO LEARN FROM:

NOTE: All of the website links below were valid at the time of publishing; there is always the chance that the website links may not be valid when you attempt to open them up.

Budget Related Items:

North Las Vegas' (NV) fiscal forecast remains decidedly cloudy, with at least an outside chance of a state takeover. That is according to a seven-year fiscal outlook co-authored by more than a dozen municipal department heads and presented Tuesday at a special City Council meeting. The state-mandated report — required under the terms of a \$32 million state cash injection used to pay off the city's growing debt, including a \$19 million budget deficit for fiscal 2013 — highlights a need for millions in additional revenue to keep the city afloat:

<http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/fiscal-forecast-gloomy-north-las-vegas>

In just a few years, the Moraga-Orinda (CA) Fire District could find itself without any operating cash because it won't have enough capital fund money to borrow to keep its general fund afloat, according to a midyear budget review up for discussion Jan. 27. A board finance committee is scheduled to look at the midyear financials before the full board reviews them Feb. 5. The revised budget includes projections the district will deplete its capital projects fund during the 2016-17 fiscal year, based on existing expenses and revenue projections. If that happens, the district won't be able to draw cash from that fund to help replenish its general fund, its reserves having been exhausted last year. Administrators say the district will have to keep using capital funds to sustain operations through fiscal year 2018-19. They plan to borrow \$700,000 from that fund this year to supplement the general fund; the capital fund balance was \$3.4 million at the end of last year. "We'll be out of cash, basically -- there won't be any money" said Administrative Services Director Gloriann Sasser, adding that the district was addressing the situation through labor negotiations now heading into their fourth year:

http://www.contracostatimes.com/contra-costa-times/ci_24989011/moraga-orinda-fire-district-could-soon-run-out

Not-So-Positive Public Relations Items:

The scam was so simple — and lucrative — that the ringleaders barely changed their tactics over 26 years. They targeted recently retired New York City cops and firefighters who had already received disability pensions from their departments. Through word of mouth, greedy retirees knew that if they wanted to net even more money with a Social Security disability payout, they just had to contact one of two retired cops: Joseph Esposito, 70, and John Minerva, 59, officials said:

<http://nypost.com/2014/01/07/how-the-massive-nypd-fdny-pension-scam-worked/>

The husband of a woman who was killed by a fire truck in downtown Lexington (KY) has reached a settlement with the city and an insurance company for \$3.75 million, according to documents received Tuesday by the Herald-Leader. The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government has agreed to pay Peter E. Roady \$2 million and National Indemnity Co. will pay a total of \$1.75 million. Lauren Woodall Roady, 27, of Washington, D.C., was hit by the Lexington Division of Fire's Engine 9 as she was crossing South Broadway at West Main Street near Triangle Park on Dec. 8, 2012. She was pronounced dead at the scene. The fire truck, driven by firefighter Christopher Presley, was making a left turn from West Main Street onto South Broadway when Roady was hit. The truck was not on an emergency run at the time of the accident, and its lights and sirens were not activated. An investigation concluded that Roady had the right-of-way and that Presley's vision was impaired because of rainy weather, fog and blind spots. Presley, 41, has been on paid leave since the accident and recently announced his retirement, Susan Straub, a spokeswoman for the city, said Tuesday in an email. He has applied for disability through the pension board, she said:

<http://www.kentucky.com/2013/12/31/3013048/375-million-settlement-reached.html>

A retired Charleston (SC) Fire Department captain on disability after the fatal Sofa Super Store fire allegedly attempted to orchestrate a New Year's Day murder of his longtime wife. But on the first day of the year, Edward Clinton Jones III found himself before a Charleston County judge after police foiled the murder-for-hire attempt, officials said:

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20140101/PC16/140109956/1006/ex-firefighter-charged-in-plot-to-kill>

When dozens of former NYPD police officers and FDNY firefighters sought disability benefits, advisers provided a playbook for faking mental illness — how to describe daily routines of languishing dysfunction, flunk simple concentration tests convincingly, dress down for benefits interviews, even how to link their supposed symptoms to 9/11, prosecutors say. The decades-long scam netted more than \$20 million in Social Security disability payments for more than 100 people and tens of thousands of dollars in kickbacks for the benefits experts who helped them, the Manhattan district attorney's office said this week in unveiling a case that points out the complicated role consultants play in a system that helps sustain more than 10 million people nationwide: <http://www.saratogian.com/general-news/20140109/new-york-city-disability-scam-case-spotlights-advisers-role>

The Charleston County (SC) Coroner's Office has identified a cyclist who was fatally struck by a fire truck late Thursday night. Officials say firefighters were responding to a motor vehicle accident just after 11 p.m. when a bicyclist was hit and killed by a North Charleston fire truck on Cross County Road. The victim has been identified by the Charleston County Coroner as 39-year-old Jihad Abdur-rahim of North Charleston. He died of blunt force trauma:

<http://www.live5news.com/story/24413190/bicyclist-dead-after-being-hit-by-n-charleston-fire-truck>

The second-in-command at the Columbus (OH) Division of Fire has been transferred out of that post. Fire Chief Gregory A. Paxton said moving Assistant Chief David Whiting from the division's top administrative job to run the fire-prevention bureau had nothing to do with allegations this past fall that Whiting tried to cover up a sex scandal involving Firefighter Mark Cain: http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/01/09/fire_transfer.html

Mayor Eric Garcetti acknowledged Monday that Los Angeles was continuing to have trouble diversifying its ranks of firefighters, saying he did not expect much progress with the first class of recruits on his watch. "I haven't seen all of the stats, but what I've heard initially, I'm not satisfied with," Garcetti said. "I think we need to have greater diversity in the recruit

classes.” Later this month, Garcetti plans to welcome the city’s first class of new Fire Department recruits in years. The department, which has been fighting court battles over racial and sexual discrimination for decades, remains a long way from reflecting the city it serves. Half of the city’s 3,200 firefighters are white, 31% are Latino, 12% are black, and 7% are Asian. Census Bureau figures show the city’s population is 29% white, 49% Latino, 11% Asian and 10% black. Also, just 3% of the city’s firefighters are female, a figure that hasn’t budged over the last two decades, even as other large cities have increased their share of women. In San Diego, 8% of firefighters are women; in Seattle, 9%. Last month, Interim Fire Chief James G. Featherstone called LAFD’s recruitment efforts “embarrassing” and said it must be “a lot more aggressive” in appealing to a diverse set of applicants: <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-firefighter-diversity-20140106,0,5185537.story#axzz2pZgeEF8Z>

Fixing the LAFD: The Mayor’s choice for the next Fire Chief will be crucial. Nearly two years ago, the brilliant facade of the Los Angeles Fire Department cracked. Long regarded as one of the nation’s premier firefighting agencies, it was reduced by the recession and budget cuts and left unable to deliver the high standard of service Angelenos expected. Complicating matters, its leadership seemed intent on covering up shortcomings rather than confronting them. Every month, it seemed, there were new revelations. Department leaders relied on inaccurate data to measure response times and misled city officials on how long it took firefighters to reach victims. The LAFD assigned poorly trained firefighters instead of specialists to analyze complex data from the computerized dispatch system. Response was being hindered by an old system, prone to breakdowns, and dispatchers were forced to go through lengthy protocols before sending a firefighter to a medical emergency. Then there was the budget. The LAFD’s expensive staffing model assigned highly paid, highly skilled firefighters to drive patients to hospitals or answer 911 calls, when other fire departments around the country had long ago put civilians in those jobs. The department must also promote professionalism within its ranks. That means eradicating the last remnants of frat-house culture in the fire stations. The LAFD paid \$2.6 million in 2013 in judgments and settlements related to discrimination and retaliation lawsuits from firefighters. While those cases originated several years ago, the LAFD’s recently fired independent assessor warned that the department wasn’t adequately handling some complaints, and that the Professional Standards Division didn’t have the staff to investigate misdeeds. The mayor and City Council must affirm their support for an effective internal discipline system and ensure that the department, which is 97% male and predominantly white, works to diversify: <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/editorials/la-ed-lafd-fire-chief-20140105,0,647337.story#ixzz2qEHpMA6N>

Show up faster or we’ll cut your funding. That’s the stern message the Santa Clara County supervisors are giving to the San Jose (CA) Fire Department, which has failed to meet response-time expectations. The county pays the fire department a bonus to respond quickly, and in one out of seven times firefighters are not delivering. “The last six months we’ve seen from San Jose are the worst six months we’ve seen,” Supervisor Joe Simitian said. Simitian said the fire department is in breach of its contract with the county, which requires firefighters to respond to Code-3 911 “lights and sirens calls” within 8 minutes 90 percent of the time. Comparing stats for the month of January, the fire department exceeded that goal in 2010, 2011 and 2012. But between September of 2012 and June of last year, the department only met the goal an average of 88.1 percent of the time. “If you’re in San Jose 500 to 600 times a month, somebody’s going to get there late,” Simitian said. “And if you’re a stroke victim or a heart-attack victim, that’s the difference between life and death.” <http://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/San-Jose-Fire-Departments-Response-Times-Under-Scrutiny-242496361.html>

Two Washington D.C. firefighters were arrested within 24 hours for traffic incidents. The arrests are yet another blow to a department already under intense scrutiny. D.C. fire officials are not commenting about either arrest except to say both firefighters are on administrative leave. One of the men was arrested around 4 a.m. Wednesday while on duty and driving a city ambulance — Medic 33. Sources told FOX 5 firefighter James Bunn is no stranger to the court system. He had been arrested along Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue in Southeast D.C. 15 months ago in his personal car after driving through a red light in front of Saint Elizabeth's. Bunn was charged with DUI. Just before dawn Wednesday morning, the same arresting officer from D.C. police couldn't believe his eyes when he saw Bunn behind the wheel of an ambulance at United Medical Center in Southeast. After stopping the ambulance, the officer's hunch was confirmed: Bunn was driving on a suspended license from that earlier DUI case and he was placed under arrest. The second D.C. firefighter arrested in the past 24 hours was 37-year-old Kevin Pringle. He was picked up along Minnesota Avenue for allegedly driving a car reported stolen out of Anne Arundel County in Maryland. Pringle was wanted for allegedly failing to return a 2013 Dodge Avenger that was rented from Budget back in October. Still, it's been a tough time for the District's Fire and EMS department. Seven of its employees have been arrested since last summer: <http://statter911.com/2014/01/08/dc-firefighter-arrested-while-driving-ambulance-on-suspended-permit-officer-recognized-him-from-dui/>

The Milwaukee (WI) Fire Department's Board of Investigation has recommended that Fire Chief Mark Rohlfing fire five employees for failing to prevent or report extensive vandalism and disorder at Engine 32, according to a department statement released Friday. Nine Milwaukee firefighters were placed on administrative suspension in the first week of October in connection with the vandalism. Of the suspended firefighters, two have since retired and two who were probationary employees were fired. The remaining five who were recommended for firing— and who have not been named by the department —will have an opportunity to present their own evidence and argument to the fire chief before he makes a final decision to discharge, suspend and/or order remedial training, according to a department news release. The investigation centered on vandalism that occurred Sept. 28 at Engine House 32 on N. 30th St. during the overnight shift: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/milwaukee-fire-department-to-release-report-on-engine-house-vandalism-b99181377z1-239613461.html>

An FDNY firefighter who failed a drug test and was barred from driving official vehicles took a spin in an FDNY van anyway and got into a serious crash — and is now seeking a tax-free disability pension, The Post has learned. Kevin Simpkins was cruising through Brooklyn last Nov. 1 when he was T-boned by a just blocks from the FDNY headquarters, where he was assigned to the Photo Unit, sources said. Simpkins, 46, returned to work for about a week, but then went out on medical leave, claiming he had suffered debilitating neck and shoulder injuries, sources said. “They’re trying to keep this hush-hush, because he wasn’t supposed to be driving in the first place,” one FDNY source said. Simpkins, a 10-year veteran, is now angling for a disability pension that would pay him three-quarters of his salary tax-free, sources said. He’s been on modified duty since 2012, following a 30-day suspension without pay because he tested positive for marijuana: <http://nypost.com/2014/01/17/firefighter-barred-from-driving-fdny-van-seeks-disability-pension-after-crash/>

Woman wants to know why Washington DC firefighters didn't walk across street from firehouse to help dying father. In his reports this evening (Tuesday), reporter Paul Wagner says the focus of the investigation is a rookie firefighter and a lieutenant assigned to Truck 15. The five firefighters on the ladder truck, according to Wagner, were the only fire or EMS personnel in the station at the time of the incident. Deputy Mayor Paul Quander told Wagner that the investigation indicates the rookie relayed the information about the emergency to a

senior person and they are trying to determine what action that person took to deal with the situation: <http://www.statter911.com/2014/01/28/woman-wants-know-dc-firefighters-didnt-walk-across-street-firehouse-help-dying-father/>

A longtime firefighter who lives in Irvine admitted Monday that he spent more than a decade arranging illegal bets through an offshore gambling business and did some of the bookmaking while on duty at a fire station. Tod Hipsher, 51, pleaded guilty in federal court in Santa Ana to conducting an illegal gambling business. He'll be sentenced June 2 and faces a maximum of five years in prison, plus a \$250,000 fine. Hipsher retired late last year as a captain with the Los Angeles County Fire Department. His lawyer said he reached a plea agreement in October, but the hearing was delayed to allow him to retire. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigators, whose investigation started in 2009, believe Hipsher took thousands of bets worth millions of dollars over 12 years. The losses left some gamblers "virtually destitute," including one person who lost almost \$900,000, said Claude Arnold, who supervises the Los Angeles office of ICE's Homeland Security Investigations unit. In 2011, undercover agents met at least twice with Hipsher at a fire station in Bell to conduct gambling business, said Mark Speidel, a special agent with Immigration and Customs Enforcement's homeland security investigations: <http://www.ocregister.com/articles/hipsher-599091-gambling-fire.html>

Thousands of businesses and homes could be in danger of break-ins and thefts because of keys that are missing from Sacramento (CA) City Fire Department stations. "These types of keys allow you access to buildings and areas that we want to secure," said City Auditor Jorge Oseguerra, who looked into the issue of missing keys. Oseguerra performed an audit of the fire department's key security and record-keeping after a whistleblower told his office there was no oversight and the keys were vulnerable to theft. The keys go to boxes on buildings and the outside gates of gated communities. Inside the boxes are more keys which open doors and gates. They are there so that firefighters can access properties during fires and other emergencies without smashing windows and knocking down doors. In October, the auditor wrote a letter to Interim Fire Chief Dan Haverty telling him, among other things, that there are " ... minimal controls in place to limit theft, loss or duplication." Many of the keys had nothing on them telling locksmiths not to copy the keys. Oseguerra's audit found several keys missing, including one that was stolen from a firefighter's SUV. The fire department would later admit five of the high-security-risk keys are unaccounted for. Three months after the auditor wrote the letter to the fire department, News10 investigated whether security of the keys had improved. The investigative team members were able to enter one of the stations mentioned in the audit and find a set of keys without being detected. They went to another station and found keys lying on the floor of an unlocked fire tender:

<http://www.news10.net/story/local/2014/01/21/4935045/>

The Washington D.C. fire department plans to conduct extensive criminal background checks on 1,800 employees after a series of arrests involving its members in recent months, according to fire officials. Many of the arrests had not been reported to the agency, as required by department policy, prompting Fire Chief Kenneth B. Ellerbe to issue a special order notifying employees they have 10 days to report any arrests or driving revocations from the last three years or face termination. "Members shall receive this notice as information that the agency shall pursue, at the culmination of this period, an extensive criminal background check of every operational employee utilizing all legally authorized methods of review," states the special order, issued Friday. Those employees would still be subject to discipline for the offenses. The order applies to about 1,800 fire department employees, including all those who man fire trucks and ambulances but excluding civilian employees with desk jobs, department spokesman Tim Wilson said. "Any employee who is found to have failed to report prior

infractions, particularly where a citation for DUI, DWI, or an arrest of any type has occurred, shall be subject to termination,” the order states. WTTG-TV (Channel 5) reported Monday that 11 firefighters have been arrested since October, most recently a firefighter arrested for driving drunk and illegally carrying a handgun in his car:

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jan/28/arrests-prompt-dc-fire-department-to-check-employee/>

General Fire Service Related Items:

A Columbus (OH) firefighter was abusive and violent when he pulled a man out of a car at gunpoint last year but didn't deserve his lengthy suspension and should be paid for lost overtime, arbitrators ruled this week. Arbitrator Richard D. Sambuco reduced arson investigator Jeffrey Smith's suspension from 80 days to 40 days, calling Fire Chief Gregory A. Paxton's punishment excessive. In a separate ruling, an arbitrator found that the city was wrong to keep Smith on administrative duty without overtime while deciding his punishment. The arbitrator ordered the city to pay Smith some of the roughly \$20,000 he makes annually in overtime. Smith and Michael J. Watkins got into a heated exchange while in separate cars last January at Jack Gibbs Boulevard and Cleveland Avenue, near Columbus State Community College. Watkins brandished a gun while in his car, Smith said. Smith then jumped out of his unmarked city vehicle, drew his gun and ordered Watkins out of the car. Smith placed Watkins in handcuffs and called police. Officers found a pellet gun in Watkins' car. Smith and his supervisor, Capt. Jeff Happ, later learned that Watkins had a criminal record. Happ and fire union President Jack Reall said Smith deserved a commendation for getting a "criminal off the street." <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/01/29/firefighters-suspension-for-gun-incident-ruled-excessive.html>

For the first time since organized firefighting began in New York more than 350 years ago, a woman might be put in charge of the city's firefighters. Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio's list of top candidates to run the Fire Department includes three women, the Daily News has learned. The selection of any of them would represent seismic change for a department which has long faced criticism its ranks do not reflect the city's diversity. But one of the three, retired fire Capt. Brenda Berkman, 62, also would be the first openly gay fire commissioner if she is selected. She sued the department in 1982 to get women on the job and was captain of Engine Co. 204 in Cobble Hill, Brooklyn when De Blasio, then a city councilman, was arrested protesting its planned closure in 2003. The historically all-male, mostly white department was hit with a civil rights lawsuit in 2007, filed by the Vulcan Society, the fraternal organization of black firefighters. Brooklyn federal Judge Nicholas Garaufis upheld their claim of disparate impact, ruling that the FDNY's written entrance examination "unfairly excluded hundreds of qualified people of color" from 1999 to 2007. As part of his ruling, Garaufis appointed a federal monitor to oversee diversity efforts within the department. As a result, minorities made up 62% of the most recent class of graduates from the department's training academy - the highest percentage yet. But there are few women firefighters. Currently, out of a force of 11,000, only 37 firefighters are women - roughly the same number that joined with Berkman following her discrimination lawsuit: <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/politics/de-blasio-eyes-female-candidates-run-fdny-article-1.1562094>

This is included not to bash female; it is included because it is a similar issue the fire service is faced with – females (and even males) that cannot pass the physical ability standards. More than half of female Marines in boot camp can't do three pullups, the minimum standard that was supposed to take effect with the new year, prompting the Marine Corps to delay the requirement, part of the process of equalizing physical standards to integrate women into

combat jobs. The delay rekindled sharp debate in the military on the question of whether women have the physical strength for some military jobs, as service branches move toward opening thousands of combat roles to them in 2016. Although no new timetable has been set on the delayed physical requirement, Marine Corps Commandant Gen. James Amos wants training officials to "continue to gather data and ensure that female Marines are provided with the best opportunity to succeed," Capt. Maureen Krebs, a Marine spokeswoman, said Thursday. Starting with the new year, all female Marines were supposed to be able to do at least three pullups on their annual physical fitness test and eight for a perfect score. The requirement was tested in 2013 on female recruits at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C., but only 45 percent of women met the minimum, Krebs said:

<http://news.yahoo.com/marines-delay-female-fitness-plan-half-fail-203830967--politics.html>

The fire service has an identity crisis and it needs to figure out how to resolve the issue to ensure its future. Those are the words Plano, Texas, Fire Chief Brian Crawford shared with the attendees of the 26th annual Fire Department Safety Officers Association's Apparatus Specification & Safety Symposium that convened this morning in Orlando. "The fire service has been changing over the years and everyone in the world recognized it except those in the fire service," Crawford told the more than 400 fire service professionals who listened to the key note address. The title of his presentation was "Identity Crisis – Fire Service Looking For Its Future." "The fire service has changed and for more than 200 years, we were able to disguise what we did with tradition," Crawford said. "We were the guys that rode around in the 40,000 pound trucks putting out fires. But in the last 30 to 40 years, things have shifted and we're doing more and more other calls every year." "My city councilors and mayor know more about my department than I do," Crawford said, noting that he has to justify every penny in his budget. That's why it's becoming more difficult to justify the purchase of big apparatus that respond for fire suppression and all-hazard mitigation:

http://www.firehouse.com/news/11296966/fire-department-safety-officers-association-conference-in-orlando-opens?utm_source=FH+Newsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=CPS140114002

Columbus (OH) Fire Chief Gregory A. Paxton has recommended firing Firefighter Marc Cain, after an investigation found that he had sex with a young woman while he was on duty. Paxton submitted his recommendation to Mitchell J. Brown, the city's director of public safety, who will make the final call on Cain's fate. It's unlikely he will overrule Paxton's recommendation. Brown has set a hearing with Cain for Feb. 11 at noon, Brown's office said yesterday. Cain, 48, has been with the Fire Division for 24 years. He was removed from his firehouse and placed on administrative duty this week while Brown reviews Paxton's recommendation. Paxton found Cain guilty of 13 violations of division policy. Paxton signed his findings on Jan. 16 and submitted them to Brown on Friday. Cain was notified of Paxton's recommendation on Tuesday. Cain's supervisors recommended his termination three months ago, after they learned he had a two-year affair with a woman that began when she was 18. The woman was a friend of Cain's daughter. A six-month investigation found that Cain had sex with the woman at Station 17 on the Hilltop numerous times between September 2011 and April 2013:

http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/01/23/chief_recommends_firing_for_firefighter_marc_cain.html

Response times to emergency calls have improved at all four Portland (OR) fire stations that have new rapid response vehicles -- essentially medically equipped SUVs sent to low-level medical calls, according to a Fire Bureau study. Their use also has meant an estimated savings of \$1,894 from July to October, the study said. That's because the SUVs get better mileage and their maintenance and repair costs are much lower than a full fire engine or ladder truck. Fire Chief Erin Janssens is expected to present the study to the City Council at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday. "The program has had some success in freeing up our four-person crews and apparatus so they can focus on the majority of the bureau's calls, which are critical fire & rescue dispatches," the study says. "Use of RRVs can save the bureau money, although it is minimal because lower-acuity calls are a small percentage of PF&R's responses."

http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2014/01/portland_fire_bureau_study_eva.html

Orange County (CA) supervisors want to put the brakes on a plan that would return millions of dollars to cities that overpaid for firefighting services from the Orange County Fire Authority. Irvine, Laguna Woods, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Juan Capistrano and the county would have received reimbursements from the Fire Authority starting next fiscal year, but the county Board of Supervisors plans to challenge the agreement in court. The fire agency, which provides firefighting services to more than half of the county's population, has been studying how much each city pays for its services since 2012. Some cities have been overcharged for years, everyone agrees, with Irvine paying the most. In 2012, Irvine city officials said they would consider leaving the agency if a more equitable payment plan was not reached. The move would have been crippling to the Fire Authority. Irvine paid more than \$57 million in 2010-11, more than one-fourth of the agency's budget. OCFA officials estimated that the city had overpaid \$18.4 million to \$35 million a year: <http://www.ocregister.com/articles/fire-599723-county-authority.html>

Please make every day a learning opportunity and train like your life depends on it – because it does!

Also, thanks to everyone for your continued support over the years. You may not agree with all of the information contained within these newsletters, but remember why the information is being included: to better prepare you for a career in the fire service, to prepare you for promoting in the fire service, and to just keep you up-to-date with what is going on in your fire service. Even more important than that, this information will hopefully keep you safe and may just save your life or the life of a brother or sister firefighter! Take care and don't just stay safe – make it safe!

Steve Prziborowski, Editor / Publisher – Chabot College Fire & EMS News

=====

Bob Buell Fire Technology Coordinator – Chabot College (510) 786-7565 - cellular phone bbuell@chabotcollege.edu	Steve Prziborowski Fire Technology Instructor - Chabot College Editor / Publisher - Chabot College Fire & EMS News (408) 205-9006 - cellular phone sprziborowski@aol.com
--	--

Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site: www.chabotfire.com
Chabot College web site: www.chabotcollege.edu
Chabot College Fire Technology on Twitter: @ChabotFire

The Fine Print:

- If you would like to be added to our mailing list (no, I won't give your email address out to others), email me at sprziborowski@aol.com and I will add you to the list. Benefits of being on the mailing list include being notified when the latest Fire & EMS news is published, and being notified of firefighter testing opportunities, volunteer opportunities, or training opportunities.
- If you know of someone who wants to receive this newsletter (as well as other updates) email me at sprziborowski@aol.com and I will place them on the mailing list.
- If you want to take your name off of the mailing list, just send me an email at sprziborowski@aol.com and in the subject heading, and type in "unsubscribe from mailing list" and I will remove your name.
- If you are subscribed to my email mailing list and you are not receiving anything (a problem some aol, hotmail and yahoo users have at times), make sure you add my name – Steve Prziborowski and the email address I use to send this newsletter and other fire and EMS related news items out – sprziborowski@aol.com to your address book, safe list, white list, etc. Since I mass mail items to thousands of people, some email providers may think these items are spam or junk mail, even though they are not. If you have not received anything from me in over two weeks, email me to let me know so that I can attempt to troubleshoot the issue.